

PERSPECTIVES

A L U M N I M A G A Z I N E

National Champs!

**Western New England College Team
Wins National Products Liability
Moot Court Competition**

WESTERN NEW ENGLAND COLLEGE SCHOOL OF LAW

FALL 2009



Members of the Student Bar Association Executive Board: Amanda Coburn, Staci Zaretsky, Jason Levine, Maren Law, Imran Siddiqui, and Christopher Sugar huddle as they gear up for a great academic year at Fall Convocation on September 1, 2009.

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From the Dean



Dear Alumni/ae and Friends,

Over the past two years, my communications to you have focused on the many physical changes to our academic environment that have positioned us well to provide an outstanding 21st century legal education. With that foundation firmly in place, we have been working on some exciting enhancements to our curriculum and a major step forward in our recruitment efforts.

In surveys of our students, they have expressed a growing interest in clustering electives that matched their particular areas of interest. A year ago our faculty approved the formalization of those courses into six new concentrations: Business Law, Criminal Law, Estate Planning Law, International and Comparative Law, Public Interest Law, and Real Estate Law.

These concentrations are available to students beginning in their second year, enabling them to explore prospective practice areas in greater depth. In concert with experiential learning opportunities, these course offerings provide students with a competitive advantage as they enter the workforce.

This issue of *Perspectives* shares with you some of the many opportunities to gain experience and serve others that our students have enjoyed through public interest internships.

While these programs distinguish us among our peers, communicating those distinctions is vitally important to our admissions strategies. Foremost among these efforts is our website, which has undergone a major update of design and content to

improve navigation and to communicate our branding messages. This redesign offers visitors to our website a dynamic experience that keeps us a step ahead of competing institutions.

This latest incarnation of our website mirrors the clean and sophisticated design of our newest law bulletin and companion admissions publications. On the frontpage you'll see something new—the School of Law's "Blawg." Associate Dean Bill Childs keeps it up-to-date with the latest happenings in and around the School. The website (www.law.wnec.edu) offers a window into the School of Law today. I hope you will visit it often to keep informed of our progress and also to remain in touch with your fellow alumni through our Alumni Relations webpage.

As our story on "The Riparians," a group of alumni friends from the Class of 1980, demonstrates, the bonds of friendship forged in law school can indeed last a lifetime. I hope that their story inspires other classmates, including the Class of 2009, to keep connected in the years ahead.

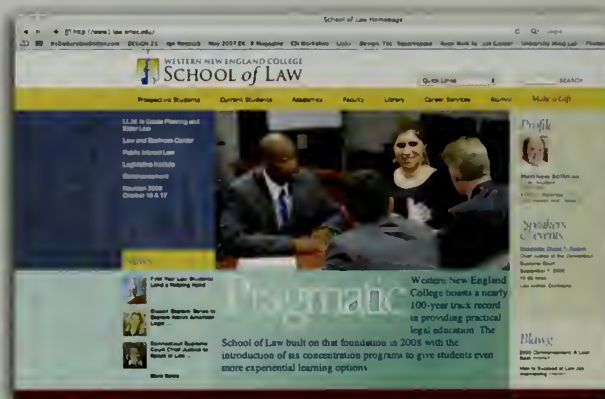
In those connections, I hope you will reach back to young alums coming up behind you. I continue to seek the support of all of our alumni in helping our newest graduates gain important legal experience during these challenging economic times. If you are interested in hiring a recent grad for a short-term part-time position through the Western New England Legal Practice Fellow program, please contact Paula Zimmer at 413-782-1416 or pzimmer@law.wnec.edu.

Whether you graduated in 2009 or 1979, our progress is your progress. Your success is our success. Together we will continue to make Western New England College a source of pride for all associated with it.

Sincerely,

Arthur R. Gaudio

Arthur R. Gaudio
Dean and Professor of Law





— Law Students Named National Products Liability Champions

(L to R): Lisa Elliott
3L, Associate Dean
Bill Childs, Jasmine
Campbell '09, and
Merritt Schnipper '09

This spring a team of three Western New England College School of Law students competing in an academic moot court competition won a national championship. Law students Jasmine Campbell of Toronto, Canada; Lisa Elliott of Camden, OH; and Merritt Schnipper of Wardsboro, VT, took home the top prize at the 22nd Annual August A. Rendigs Jr. National Products Liability Moot Court Competition in Cincinnati on April 4. The students prevailed over 23 teams from law schools throughout the country in the prestigious competition, hosted by the University of Cincinnati College of Law.

"The level of competition was very strong throughout the competition. It was a delight to watch our team rise to the occasion," said team coach and Associate Dean for External Affairs Bill Childs. "They truly deserve the title of National Champions." The team presented the School of Law with the competition championship plaque at the Dean's Awards Tea on April 23.

Campbell and Schnipper graduated from the Western New England College School of Law this spring, with Campbell taking a position with Stinson, Morrison, Hecker, a major firm in Kansas City. Schnipper joined the leading Vermont firm of Downs, Rachlin & Martin as a litigator. Elliott, a third-year student, spent the summer working at a medical malpractice law firm in Cincinnati.

This year's problem focused on whether federal law preempted an injured person from bringing a state court lawsuit for injuries from a harmful weight-loss product and whether the state court jury verdict awarding punitive damages against the seller of the product was excessive.

The Western New England College team successfully produced a written brief for the competition, which included three preliminary and two semifinal rounds

before the championship finals. The preliminary rounds were held at the Hamilton County Courthouse, while the final rounds took place at the federal Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals. The final round, before a nine-judge panel, was heard in the Sixth Circuit's en banc courtroom.

Judges from across the country, including state Supreme Court justices, federal appellate judges, and trial court judges presided over the advanced rounds. In the final round, the students appeared in front of nine judges who actively challenged the students with an energetic round of questions. The feedback from the judges was uniformly positive, with Professor James T. O'Reilly of the University of Cincinnati College of Law—a national authority on products liability—stating that Campbell was one of the 10 best oral advocates he had seen in the 22 years of the competition.

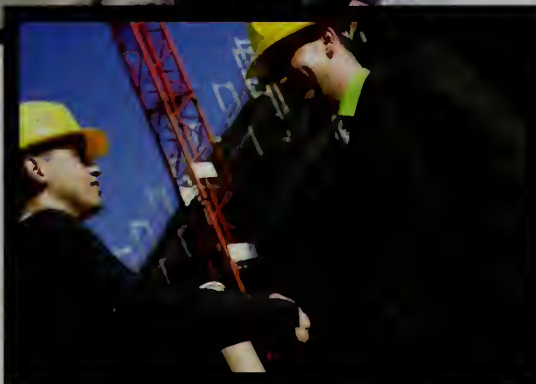
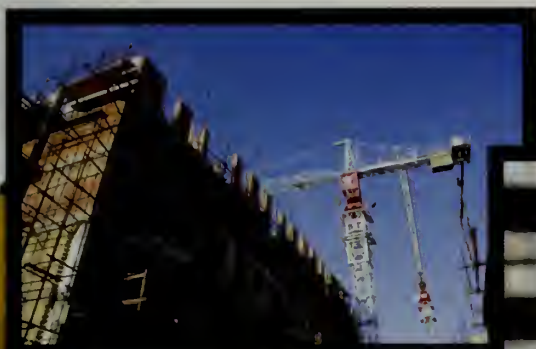
This 2009 national championship continues a strong Western New England College School of Law tradition. Its teams won the ABA National Tax Challenge in 2008 and also recent national championships in the First Amendment and Negotiation Competitions.



Risk Averse

Surety Lawyers Reduce the Fear Factor of Bankrolling Big Budget Projects

Perhaps the most critical item needed on a construction site is not the blueprints, nor the crane, nor the scaffolding, but the legal concepts of surety bonds and indemnification. These financial assurances to an owner pledges that a contractor will finish a job. Without this type of a financial assurance, the gears of many construction jobs across the country would grind to a halt.



A contractor holds the responsibility of finding a surety to underwrite them for a project. The surety, many times an insurance company which already has a business relationship with the contractor, guarantees that the obligation of the bond will be completed by the contractor. If the contractor fails to meet the obligation, also known as a default, the surety issuer will step in and financially meet that obligation.

A surety can issue several types of bonds for projects, with the most common being bid bonds, performance bonds, and payment bonds. A bid bond is a guarantee by a surety to the owner that a contractor will complete a project if a bid is awarded to the contractor. This is used primarily in public projects where transparent bidding is part of the process. A performance bond guarantees that a contractor will complete the project for the owner to the specifications of the contract. A payment bond is used to make sure that subcontractors receive payment from the general contractor.

In the case of a performance bond, if a contractor fails to perform the obligation, the owner has the right to sue both the contractor and the surety on the bond. The surety is then liable to the owner to perform in the place of the contractor, but unlike a standard insurance policy where the insurance company would pay a claim, a surety will go after the contractor to recover damages if there is a default.

When a contractor defaults, things can get very complicated. With a payment bond, a contractor who defaults could owe payment to dozens of subcontractors. With a performance bond, a contractor could be in the midst of numerous different projects, leaving a surety issuer on the hook for a significant amount of money. That is when surety law attorneys step in.

"It's actually not that common for a claim to come up," said Brad Carver '80, a Partner in the nationally-respected firm of Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP. "But when they do they tend to be quite large and cause a lot of antagonism between an owner and a general contractor."

Brad heads up Hinshaw & Culbertson's Boston branch, an office that opened in 2005 with seven attorneys and has doubled in size since then. With nearly 30 years of experience in the field, Brad is the point person for the firm in the Commonwealth. "We are a full service law firm. With respect to surety law, we are probably considered one of the preeminent firms in the country. We have lawyers in multiple offices that handle surety claims and I think that we are well known throughout the country for the work we do in surety law."

Surety claims have increased due to the current fiscal crisis.

"Because public money is so tight, public owners on occasion will hold contract money from general contractors for a variety of reasons and that can sometimes cause events to snowball,"



"A trial of a complicated surety case could last weeks...mediation is something that most sureties are very receptive to. You'll try to find a mediator that knows something about construction or surety law and he or she can often do an effective job trying to resolve very complicated issues."

Brad Carver '80
Partner
Henshaw & Culbertson
Boston, MA



said Brad. "A general contractor, because he is not being paid by an owner, will not have money to pay his subcontractors. That causes lawsuits to be filed, which causes more problems on other jobs and it can ultimately cause the demise of the general contractor. One of the things we have seen is that the tightening of the purse strings has caused some general contractors to experience more cash problems, which then create surety problems."

"I've probably done more mechanic's liens in the last six months than in the last five years," added Adam Basch '02, an attorney with Bacon and Wilson, P.C. in Springfield. "Thanks to the decline in real estate prices, many construction projects have been started with an expected value of a certain amount that turns out to be much lower in actual value when the project is completed. Many times this leaves a general contractor without enough funds to pay all of the subcontractors and suppliers. And that is when payment bonds are instituted."

Indemnification: An Added Level of Protection

As municipal and state governments struggle to fund thousands of public projects across the country, private owners face the same financing difficulties. Personal guarantee indemnifications are another option available to owners to assure completion of their project. When a company contracts with an owner, a clause can be added to the agreement that makes the shareholder or principal of the company personally liable for any damage the company may do. This allows the

owner to obtain a judgment against the shareholder in addition to the company.

"In today's business climate more and more contractors are concerned about asset protection," said Adam. "Contractors try to keep as much of their property in their personal name and do their business through corporations in order to protect their assets from possible litigation."

Without a personal guarantee in a contract an owner can only recover damages for a contractor's errors from the company, not the contractor as an individual. "For a judgment to be of any value to your client it has to be collectable," explained Adam. "Many contracting companies do not own anything substantial. Adding one simple sentence at the end of the contract can make all the difference."

Personal guarantee indemnifications are used mainly with smaller contractors in the home improvement field. But many homeowners simply aren't sophisticated enough to ask for these guarantees to be added to home improvement contracts.

"In my experience, this is somewhat of a difficult concept for clients to understand," continued Adam. "They just don't even know to ask for a personal guarantee in a contract. Unfortunately for homeowners with these types of construction disputes, the first time the homeowner thinks to contact a lawyer is after the contractor has destroyed the house or run off with the deposit."

These clauses are as beneficial for the homeowners as they are onerous to the contractor. "If a contractor client of mine called me and said some homeowner wants a personal guarantee, I

would advise them against that," said Adam. "It's a benefit to the homeowner and a burden to the contractor under almost all circumstances."

And while contractors can typically avoid making these promises when dealing with homeowners who are not cognizant of the finer points of construction law, more sophisticated entities like supply houses are going to know how to bring a personal guarantee into the negotiation.

"A contractor will counter a supply house's demand for a personal guarantee by threatening to take its business elsewhere," said Adam. "In some cases it could mean the loss of millions of dollars in sales for a supply house. Business people who deal with these issues all the time know the value or burden to the personal guarantor."

A Viable Alternative

Due to the complexity of these types of cases, the use of alternative dispute resolution is becoming more prevalent in the field.

"A trial of a complicated surety case could last weeks," explained Brad. "It is very difficult to get a trial date because no judge wants to tie up his or her courtroom for several weeks at a time with a very document intensive case. Almost by default and by choice, mediation is something to which most sureties are receptive. You'll try to find a mediator that knows something about construction or surety law and he or she can often do an effective job trying to resolve very complicated issues."

"It's been growing for the past decade. Mediation has matured enough that it is just part of the litigation process at this point. It's something that most people anticipate and expect will happen in most cases."

Added Adam, "Most large commercial contracts will have a provision to submit the matter to mediation through the American Arbitration Association in their construction litigation division. Can you imagine impaneling 12 jury members and showing them expert reports, diagrams, drawings, and talking about stress fractures in concrete? They're just not going to understand it."

While a specific surety law course is not in the curriculum of Western New England College School of Law, the education these attorneys received here served as more than adequate preparation for them to take on the rigors of this complex field. "I really felt that the legal education I got at Western New England College was of an incredibly high caliber," said Brad. "I think my first year Contracts course really laid a great foundation for going into surety law."

Brad was looking for this kind of challenge after graduation in 1980. "When I graduated, the Travelers in Hartford was looking for people to handle surety law. At that time I knew nothing about surety law whatsoever. After studying it a little bit, I realized it involved pretty complicated construction issues. It really was quite complex, which was something that interested me."

Adam found his niche in this field quickly after he started at Bacon and Wilson six years ago. "Just slowly over time I just did more and more surety work. As it stands for our office, I probably do 90 percent of the construction litigation for our firm."

"Construction cases are pretty complicated," continued Adam. "Mechanic's lien statutes are pretty difficult. A lot of times these cases rely on expert witnesses, architects, or engineers. You have to learn how to read blueprints and have an understanding of the construction industry." ♦



"In today's business climate, more and more contractors are concerned about asset protection."

Adam Basch '02
Attorney
Bacon and Wilson, P.C.
Springfield, MA



Commencement 2009



Chaucy Fuller and Korlyn Howard



Rene Juarez and Ryan English

Celebrating Milestones and Miracles

With endless outlining, nerve-racking cold calls, and three-hour in-class exams behind them, on May 16, 2009, 206 members of the Class of 2009 received their Juris Doctor degrees at Commencement ceremonies held at Springfield's Symphony Hall. After a brief respite, it was on to the gauntlet of Bar Exam prep!

View the Commencement photo album at www.law.wnec.edu/alumni



Dean Art Gaudio, President Anthony S. Caprio, Attorney Pauline Schneider, and Trustee Chair John M. O'Brien III



Keri Wintle



Diana Giafone and Lisamarie Proscino





Student Speaker Chaucy Fuller '09

In addition to the 206 JD degrees, the LL.M. in Estate Planning and Elder Law program, which can be completed entirely online, awarded 17 degrees to students from across the country. And one student received both an MBA and JD degree from that combined degree program.

Chaucy Fuller '09 delivered the class address. He predicted, "Years from now I am convinced that our class will be known for greatness. Now the roads that we travel will be just as diverse as those that led us here, but we will forever be connected through our time here."

Pauline Schneider of the international law firm of Orrick, Herrington, and Sutcliffe, LLP, was invited to deliver the Commencement address and received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree.

She gave students advice not only for the day of celebrating their hard earned achievements, but to consider in the years ahead, stating, "When the celebration is over and as you begin your professional journey, I ask that you reflect on what it means to be a lawyer; what it means to be a member of an honored and privileged profession; and what it means to be a citizen in a democracy facing huge challenges and serious threats from those who resent deeply our freedoms and prosperity."

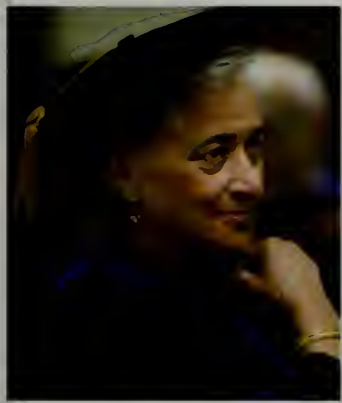
College President Anthony S. Caprio shared the news that at the close of the day's Law and Undergraduate Commencement ceremonies Western New England College would have 40,000 alumni worldwide, including

7,000 law alumni. He reminded the newest members of the law alumni family of their role in a free society.

"Lawyers have been educated that they may serve the public interest by helping citizens understand the important role law plays in a democratic society," he said. "Find joy and passion in your work. Use the law to enrich yourself in ways that go well beyond the dollar through the knowledge of the law that you have acquired here. Uphold the rule of law, ensure that the fair administration of justice prevails, and defend the rights and liberties of all."

Dean Art Gaudio spoke to the assembly about witnessing "miracles," which he defined as "something wonderful that happens unexpectedly." As examples, he pointed to two events impacting technology and society over the course of his life: man landing on the moon in 1969 and Barack Obama being elected our first African American President in 2008. He encouraged the graduates to find ways to make "everyday" miracles happen from saving a family home from foreclosure to helping acquit the wrongly accused and protecting society by prosecuting the guilty.

He said, "My message to the graduates is that with your new knowledge and skills all things are possible. Through your efforts you can make good things happen. You can be miracle workers. By performing those everyday miracles, your client, our society, and you will be the better for it."



Speaker Pauline Schneider

Convocation 2009: Planting Seeds for Professionalism



Chief Justice Rogers is greeted by Dean Gaudio

"I want to be very clear here. If you fail to be professional and honest in your conduct as you now become members of the bar, you have zero chance of being a top-notch lawyer."

Chief Justice Rogers

It's never too early to begin cultivating a code of professionalism in the legal community and Connecticut Supreme Court Chief Justice Chase T. Rogers took the opportunity at Fall Convocation to make that point directly to first-year students just two weeks into their legal educations. Rogers addressed the class and guests at Fall Convocation on September 1 at the Law School Commons.

"Convocation provides a time to reflect on our shared purpose, and as our mission statement states, the School of Law is dedicated to training members of the legal profession to serve the public, the bar, and the judicial system in the highest and finest tradition of a distinguished calling," stated Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Beth Cohen.

Justice Rogers, who has made professionalism a focus of her tenure, told

the students, "Book learning and getting good grades are obviously integral to your success, but a full education also involves listening very carefully to that inner compass within you."

"I would like to suggest to you that the manner in which you conduct yourself on any given day as an aspiring lawyer matters very much. In fact, it will define you as an attorney and what you ultimately contribute to the legal profession."

Rogers has served as Chief Justice of the Connecticut Supreme Court since 2007. She was an Appellate Court Judge from 2006-2007 and served as a Superior Court Judge from 1998-2006. Chief Justice Rogers currently serves as a member of the Board of Directors for the Conference of Chief Justices and as a member of the Connecticut Bar Foundation's Nominating Committee.

Anil Chaudhry has always had a passion for problem-solving. Whether it's his undergrad degree in architectural engineering, his distinguished tenure in the military, or studying law, Chaudhry '09 says, "Each is about balance: about taking a problem, solving it, and making that solution palatable to everyone."

Presidential Management Fellow Anil Chaudhry '09 is making an impact, one solved problem at a time.

by Deb Whittemore

This summer Chaudhry began an opportunity to employ his problem-solving skills like never before after being awarded a Presidential Management Fellowship in Washington, DC. The Presidential Management Fellows Program, administered by the U.S. Office of Personnel Management, is a prestigious leadership training program offered to approximately 200 outstanding master's, law, and doctoral-level students nationwide. Chaudhry will serve the two-year fellowship with the Business Transformation Agency of the Department of Defense, whose goal is to change the corporate culture of the Department.

Chaudhry's journey to Washington in reality began more than 20 years ago before he and his family first came to the United States. His parents worked for the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) establishing elementary schools and training centers in central Africa, instilling in him early on the value of dedicating one's life to impacting others. He received scholarships for college, graduate school, and law school, and recalls that while he was an enlisted soldier in the military, someone made note of his potential and helped him obtain an ROTC scholarship. This assistance left an impression. "I'm a firm believer in giving back," Chaudhry says. "That the more you give, the more you receive."

That desire to give back, coupled with his penchant for solving problems, is what drew Chaudhry to law school. "My mindset has always been public service, along

the lines of 'How can I make a difference at the end of the day?'" he says. "After serving in the military, problem-solving was so ingrained in me. To me law is a way to articulate the problem-solving process...it's about finding a happy medium that everyone can work with."

Chaudhry was deployed to Iraq in 2003 and served as a Military Transition Team advisor to a Battalion of the Iraqi National Police. A decorated Army officer, just a few of his military awards include the Combat Action Badge, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal (three), and National Defense Service Medal.

He had been looking into law school before being deployed, and so in 2006, after being accepted by the School of Law, Chaudhry began the sometimes difficult transition from the battlefield to the classroom. He was just a month removed from Iraq. Ten years had passed since he had been in an educational setting. He had a wife and newborn and took classes at night, caring for the baby during the day while his wife worked. "I was still spooked by loud noises while many others were oblivious to what was going on over there, except for what they saw on TV," he recalls.

In the midst of transition, he quickly discovered that at the School of Law, he was gaining an education, not just a degree.

"It started with the admissions process, when I got a personal call from Dean Johnson [former Dean of Admissions], rather than just a form letter. There's that old adage—the way people greet you is the way

they intend to treat you. My professors understood what I was going through, and I was treated with respect. I was never just a number," Chaudhry recalls. "I had a professor remember my name out of a class of 85 people. I can remember being invited out to lunch by my professors, having not just discussions about the law but how to apply the law for greater social good."

Chaudhry made the most of his law school experience, participating in the School of Law's internship program, which enabled him to work in the U.S. Attorney's Office, United States Postal Service Legal Department, in a regional office of the National Labor Relations Board, and with a U.S. District Court judge. He also passed the daunting patent bar.

Reflecting on how his law school experience led to a once in a lifetime opportunity in Washington, Chaudhry is quick to emphasize a term he calls "expectation management." "Students have to understand they are responsible for their destiny," he says. "You can't come in expecting a handout or to be handed a job at a top law firm without working harder and smarter than the rest of the class. You can't just wait for things to happen. You have to get out there and do things for yourself, and to ask for help if you need it. Every time I needed help, someone was there for me."

Chaudhry has never looked lightly on the times he's received support. Now he's ready to give in return. As a Presidential Management Fellow, Chaudhry says he'll be "groomed for senior leadership"



while fulfilling his goal of making a difference. Among his duties in the Defense Business Transformation Agency will be advising senior leadership within the Department of Defense on how to implement newer technologies such as electronic health records without violating current laws on privacy and national defense. And his first assignment has Chaudhry inspired.

"I'm going to be working with a group of exceptionally talented people on how to modernize the Iraqi banking system," he says. "We need to find a way to reduce the amount of free-flowing dollars on the battlefield and ensure Iraqi contractors are paid quickly and with Iraqi money."

"In the Defense Department right now, money is limited," he continues. "We can't afford to waste any more money. The more I can do to help the Department become more efficient, the more I'm helping soldiers. These are the people I served with. The best thing I could do for them is to help make a difference...to live my life the best that I can, and to continuously give back." ♦

A LEGEND AMONG US

S. Prestley Blake Visits the "House that Blake Built"

Proudly sitting on a stage in the lobby of the building that bears his name, S. Prestley Blake, cofounder of Friendly Ice Cream, and his wife, Helen, joined the Western New England College community for a special question and answer discussion on February 25 about the Harvard Business School Study on Blake's proxy fight with Friendly.

Mr. Blake founded Friendly with his brother in 1935 and they ran the company until 1979 when they sold it for \$162 million to Hershey Foods Corporation. In the late 1990s, Mr. Blake became concerned when the stock price slid to \$1.70 and he purchased 900,000 shares to become the company's largest shareholder and forced a change in management through a proxy fight with its then owner The Restaurant Company. Harvard Business School created a case study on this battle for control of the company, which was distributed to universities around the world.

Professor of Law Eric Gouvin opened the event with a presentation recapping the founding, growth, and transfers of ownership of Friendly Ice Cream over its 80-year history.

"Everyone who grew up in the Northeast has a soft spot for Friendly," lauded Professor Gouvin. "It was your neighborhood ice cream shop, but it was actually becoming quite a big business and it's quite a tribute to the management skill of the Blakes that they were able to create a very big company and still retain that local feel."

Mr. Blake opened his comments by offering some insight on his role in building this New England institution. "We structured the company so every employee owned some stock. They wore a little emblem on their uniform that said 'coowner.'"

One of the controversies Mr. Blake addressed during the proxy fight was the potential conflict of interest the new CEO of the company faced due to running a public company (Friendly) and a private company (Perkins).

"The Board did not recognize their responsibility to the shareholders because whatever the chairman said, that was how they felt about it," explained Mrs. Blake. "They gave lip service to the fact that there was a conflict of interest. Friendly



was now a public company. They were financed by public money; the Board was supposed to be responsible to the shareholders. The CEO called Friendly and Perkins 'sister companies,' which was inappropriate since one was public and one was private. This label gave him the opportunity to transfer money between the two."

"I am happy to have been part of something to help make companies more responsible to their shareholders because the shareholders really own the company," added Mr. Blake. "I had the wherewithal to fight. It cost me \$11 million, not all legal fees. Two and a half million was in legal fees while the rest was to purchase enough stock so I could be in a commanding position to do something."

The case study discussion also gave Mr. Blake an opportunity to inspect the brand new Law School Commons, part of the expanded lobby. The renovations to the Law Center, which were completed in Summer 2008, were the first major updates to the building since Mr. Blake gave his initial gift of \$250,000 to help build it in 1976.

This special presentation by Mr. and Mrs. Blake, which was cosponsored by the Law and Business Center for Advancing Entrepreneurship and the School of Business, was just one of numerous speakers welcomed to the School of Law during the Spring semester.



The Blake Law Center

INSTITUTE FOR LEGISLATIVE AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

SPRING 2009 SUMMARY OF PROGRAMS

► **The Massachusetts Appeals Court** conducted its semi-annual sitting at the School of Law on April 8, 2009. The appeals panel comprised Presiding Justice Ariane Vuono and Associate Justices Francis Fecteau and our own William J. Meade '89. Justice Meade received his B.A. degree cum laude from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst in 1986. He began his career as an Assistant District Attorney. Prior to his appointment to the Appeals Court, Justice Meade, among other things, served as a Seminar Lecturer and Coordinator of a Clinical Program at Harvard Law School. He also served as Editor-in-Chief of the *Massachusetts Law Review* from 2003 to 2006. He was appointed by Governor Romney as an Associate Justice of the Appeals Court on December 22, 2006.

Justice Meade was not the only School of Law graduate in the Pelligrini Moot Court Room last April. A number of our graduates appeared before the Court to argue a wide variety of civil and criminal matters covering a range of constitutional, statutory, procedural, and evidentiary questions. Our graduates arguing before the Court were Assistant District Attorneys Jane Davidson Montori '79 and



Dianne M. Dillon '77; Springfield Corporate Counsel Edward Pikula '83; and Attorneys Harry P. Carroll '75, Peter P. Fenton '80, Edward B. Fogarty '82, Lisa Brodeur McGan '90, Daniel Sandell '03, Erin Wyllie '90, and Kim Zadworny '04.



(L to R) Lt. Governor Timothy Murray '94, Senator Gale Candaras '82, Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick, and Institute Director Art Wolf

► **This past spring**, graduates who serve in our State Legislature and Institute Director Art Wolf met with Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick and Lt. Governor Timothy Murray '94 to discuss a variety of legislative matters and other important issues of law and public policy. Carrying out their promise to regularly visit the communities in western Massachusetts, the Governor and Lt. Governor met specially with Senators Stephen Buoniconti '95 and Gale Candaras '82 and Representatives Cheryl Coakley Rivera '95 and Angelo Puppola '01. Budgetary matters, the survival of community hospitals, education, healthcare, and the needs of the less fortunate were among the topics of discussion.

Finally, the School again this summer hosted two students from Siena College in Upstate New York. This summer, Ryan Ziegler and Keri Timlin worked with Professors Barbara Noah and Sudha Setty on two important research projects. Keri worked on researching the issue of preventive detention and specialized courts in Great Britain. She focused on two main topics: (1) reviewing a number of counterterrorism books and wrote brief memos, summarizing the relevant contents of the books; and (2) writing a lengthy paper on the history of preventive detention and use of specialized courts in Great Britain, particularly focusing on the history of the Diplock Courts, used to try suspected terrorists during the "Troubles" in Northern Ireland.

Ryan researched and wrote an original paper about the regulation of prescription drugs, specifically controlled substances, in the United States. He described the federal and state regulatory schemes, and he examined some cases in which physicians appealed disciplinary actions against their licenses for alleged over-prescribing. Finally, he discussed the tension between maintaining access to controlled substances for appropriate medical use and regulating these substances in order to reduce illegal diversion and abuse.



Immediate

Professor Sudha Setty's Tireless Efforts Earned Her the 2009

In the three years she has been on the faculty, Associate Professor of Law Sudha Setty has made quite an impact on the School of Law. The recently named 2009 Catherine Jones Professor of the Year Award winner has had her hand in spearheading many programs that are contributing to the academic growth of the School of Law. She has coorganized the Color of Law Roundtable Speaker Series (with Professor Bridgette Baldwin), worked on the creation of the six concentration programs for upperclass students, and has amassed a distinguished collection of scholarly work.

A native of Storrs, CT, Professor Setty earned a Bachelor of Arts in History from Stanford University and graduated from Columbia Law School where she was a Harlan Fiske Stone scholar and on the editorial board of the *Columbia Journal of Law and Social Problems*. "I had wanted to be a lawyer since I was in middle school," explained Professor Setty of her initial desire to attend law school. "When I went to college, I tried to branch out and consider other careers. I spent the year after college on a teaching program in Japan and I thought for some time about getting a master's [degree] in education, but realized that law was a calling for me. There was no other subject that made me as passionate about learning."

Following seven years of practicing in New York City, Professor Setty began the transition from litigator to the world of academia. As she was narrowing down the list of institutions at which she was interested in teaching, Western New England College stood out to her for one very important reason. "As I was interviewing

with various law schools it became very clear to me that the faculty here was committed to creating a community with the students that was not evident at a lot of other law schools."

She brings that philosophy of personal attention into her courses as she currently teaches Comparative Constitutional Law, Civil Rights, Law and Terrorism, and Contracts and is the Advisor to the International and Comparative Law Concentration, part of the new batch of six concentrations available for upperclass students. She had a role in the creation of the concentrations as part of the Curriculum Committee that recommended their adoption during the spring of 2008. The Committee worked with the faculty, administration, and students to propose concentrations for six practice areas designed to give students more in-depth preparation for their careers.

Thanks to her extensive research endeavors and interest in the international and comparative law field, Professor Setty has proven to be an excellent resource for students seeking career path advisement. "I think a lot of students don't immediately see how their interest in international and comparative law might translate into a career in that area. There are a lot of great job opportunities in this practice area. It's a competitive field and a tough field to get into. Having a designated concentration on your transcript is helpful to demonstrate to potential employers a commitment to this area of law. We are hoping in the next few years to develop more structured externship programs and a network of placement opportunities to which we can refer students."

Her dedication to providing students with professional experience extended to her decision to create the Color of Law Roundtable.

"One of the things that has been mentioned in faculty meetings is the need to bring more speakers to the School who can talk about how they got to where they are," explained Professor Setty of the genesis of the Color of Law Roundtable. "Professor Baldwin and I felt a particular need for that in terms of bringing in people of color to be speakers at the School. Similarly at these faculty meetings there has been discussion about improving the sense of community for students of different racial or ethnic backgrounds. We felt that this speaker series was one step towards improving that situation."

"Often we are inviting back alumni [to speak]. They really like having this connection with the School. We feel it is an honor for us to have them come back and share their wisdom with us and the students."

Professor Setty's embodiment of the Western New England College School of Law student-centered values was recognized when she was named Professor of the Year. She was surprised and moved to win the award. "It was extraordinarily touching and it actually still is, even though it's been several months since I was told about the award and received it. When I first heard the news, I was rushing to class and I found myself getting emotional in the hallway. It is extraordinarily moving to feel so much support from the student body." ♦

by Brendan Payne

Impact

Catherine Jones Professor of the Year Award

{ When I went to college, I tried to branch out and consider other careers. I spent the year after college on a teaching program in Japan and I thought for some time about getting a master's [degree] in education, but realized that law was a calling for me. There was no other subject that made me as passionate about learning. }



CampusUPDATE

From February - September 2009

By Beth Barszcz



President Anthony S. Caprio, Assistant Professor Curt Hamakawa L'84, and Provost Jerry Hirsch

Professors Hamakawa L'84 and Hakala Recognized for Teaching Excellence

The recipients of the College's annual Teaching Excellence Award were announced on May 15 during Baccalaureate Ceremonies. This honor is generally given to one outstanding member of the faculty who is nominated by other members of the campus community. However, for the second time in the College's history, there were two recipients. Both School of Law alumnus Curt Hamakawa L'84, Assistant Professor of Sport Management and Director of the Center for International Sport Business, and Christopher Hakala, Associate Professor of Psychology, received this prestigious honor, which is granted for outstanding contributions as educators and advisors. One student praised Hamakawa for being "exceptionally passionate about the success of students," while another credited Hakala as being "an excellent teacher inside and outside the classroom."

New Ph.D. in Behavior Analysis to Ease World Shortage of Autism Educators and Researchers

This spring Western New England College celebrated a new era in postgraduate education with a kickoff event launching the new Ph.D. Program in Behavior Analysis. Begun in 2008, the program is the only behavior analysis doctoral program in New England. It includes more board certified, doctoral level professors than any behavior analysis program in the world.

Western New England College has partnered with the prestigious New England Center for Children to offer this new program. The Center, located in Southborough, offers state-of-the-art education for children with autism, autism spectrum disorder, pervasive developmental disorder (PDD), and Asperger's Syndrome. The Center is home to a school for more than 200 children with autism and includes a faculty of more than 600 educators.

According to L. Vincent Strully, Executive Director of the New England Center for Children, "There is an incredible shortage of well-trained professionals to work with children with autism and there is a tremendous shortage of people qualified to train those professionals." He said the program is something that he had wanted to create for many years and was excited to have partnered with Western New England College. "While there were other potential partners for this program," he noted, "the strength of Western New England College and its Psychology program was the draw for us."



L. Vincent Strully, Executive Director, New England Center for Children



Solar panels and a wind turbine used to power "Green" Labs at Sleith Hall

College Partners with National Sustainability Organization

In compliance with the College's core value regarding stewardship of its campus as stated in its new Strategic Plan 2009-2018, Western New England College has recently become a member of the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE). This partnership further validates Western New England College's commitment to caring for the sustainability and aesthetics of the environment both within and beyond the campus.

AASHE is an association of colleges and universities in the U.S. and Canada working to create a sustainable future. Its mission is to promote sustainability in all sectors of higher education through education, communication, research, and professional development. AASHE defines sustainability in an inclusive way, encompassing human and ecological health, social justice, secure livelihoods, and a better world for all generations.



College President Anthony S. Caprio congratulates President's Medallion Recipient Ron Laney

College Explores "Possibilities" in Child Safety

The third annual Possibilities Symposium was hosted by Western New England College beginning June 4. This two-day national conference was centered on the topic of child safety and discussed various topics relating to prevention of abuse or abduction, including "Bullying Prevention in Schools and Beyond," "Identifying Abuse in the Family," and "The Internet in the Real World Today."

Speakers for the various sessions featured some of the top professionals in the industry. The keynote speaker was Dr. Sharon Cooper,

CEO of Developmental and Forensic Pediatrics, a consulting firm that provides medical care, training, and expert witness experience in child maltreatment cases and medical care for children with disabilities. Cooper spoke on "Understanding Why: A Comprehensive Critical Look at Child Sexual Exploitation."

On the evening of June 4, the College hosted a dinner to benefit radKids, an organization focused on teaching children how to avoid and resist danger. The event included Ashley Gearing, a local turned national country music

sensation, who provided the entertainment for the evening. During the dinner, College President Anthony S. Caprio recognized Ron Laney, Associate Administrator in the Child Protection Division of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), by presenting him with the President's Medallion Award. This honor is bestowed upon individuals who have distinguished themselves among their peers and have demonstrated commitment and dedication to an important cause.

Board of Trustees Welcomes New Members

The Western New England College Board of Trustees recently welcomed four members.



Robert Salad L'83



Roger Wade '82

Robert E. Salad L'83 completed his two-year Law Alumni Trustee term and was invited to continue to serve. Salad is the President, Partner, and Co-Chairman of the Tax and Commercial Law Department in the Atlantic City, NJ office of Cooper, Levenson, April, Niedelman & Wagenheim, P.A.

Roger W. Wade L'82 is a Principal and Founding Partner of G.W. & Wade, an independent wealth management firm. Wade will serve as Law Alumni Trustee on the Board.

Rocco J. Falcone II '84/G'87 is President and CEO of Rocky's Hardware Inc. and is the third generation to run the 83-year old family owned retail hardware business which was founded in 1926. Falcone served as the Alumni/Corporation Solicitation Chair for the Alumni Healthful Living Center and is a stakeholder for the School of Business. Furthermore, Rocco and Rocky's Hardware established an endowed scholarship as part of the College's Transformations Campaign.

Olaekan A. Adeoyin '09 has been named the Alumni Trustee. Adeoyin graduated in May with a degree in Electrical Engineering and currently works at Pratt & Whitney. He received the 2009 Andrew J. Mulcahy Student Leadership Award, and the Alumni Association Grand Skookum Award, and was named to *Who's Who Among Students in Colleges and Universities*.



Rocco Falcone II '84/G'87



Olaekan Adeoyin '09

{celebrating 30 years of friendship}

Riparian Waters Run Deep

By Patricia Gannon

***"Who wants to go to lunch?"
The question was posed
and for those who
accepted, it was the
beginning of 30 years of
special friendship which
continues to this day.***

In the fall of 1977, a short time into their first semester at Western New England College School of Law, a dozen or so classmates gathered for lunch at a local pub in Sixteen Acres. "When it came time to leave, we did not, and missed our afternoon Property Law class," recalled Bill O'Grady '80. Since the topic to be discussed in the class that afternoon was Riparian Rights (a system of allocating water rights among those who own land around its source), The American Lower Riparian Association was "officially" formed and is still going strong.

"We didn't feel we were good enough to qualify for the title of The American Upper Riparian Association," joked O'Grady, now a partner in the law firm of Parker & O'Grady in Springfield and Southampton, MA. His remark is true to the "Riparians" who, though talented and successful, are a self-effacing group who take simple joy just being in each other's company. "We never took ourselves too seriously, which I think was our common bond," reflected Rob Taylor '80, who is currently a partner at Day Pitney in Hartford, CT. When the Riparians were formed, the youngest in the group was 21 and the oldest in his fifties.

Over the years, their membership has grown to include wives, offspring, and additional friends they have made along the way.

The Class of '80 Riparian membership includes (with O'Grady's notes): Rocco Abbatangelo '80 ("lives in PA and meets us in Pittsburgh, always a good time"); Professor Gene Anderson; Eddie Black '81; Larry Cumberland; Robert Dickinson '80; Michael Georgetti '80; Jim Higham '80, Carl Massaro '80 married to Superior Court Judge Barbara Brazzel-Massaro class of '81; Mike McCabe '80 ("at one time considered the Grand Riparian, but we are rethinking that after our last get together in DC"); Tom Mochnick '80 ("passed away and sorely missed. Being a Riparian was a lot more fun with him around. Tom's beautiful daughters, Alexis and Kristin, are now members and were innocent children when first forced to wear Riparian t-shirts"); William O'Grady married to Cheryl Parker '82; Pete Pardo '80 ("retired from the U.S. military"); Dave Sanders '80 ("Captain in the U.S. Coast Guard, Washington DC, saving us from external threats"); Bill Stanley '80; Rob Taylor married to Ann Taylor (nee Gallagher) also class of '80; and Frank Tinari '80 ("lives somewhere on Long Island, I can never remember the town, just that the traffic is horrific to get there").

"Believe it or not, we were all pretty good students," said O'Grady. "We got to know some wonderful professors—John O'Connor, Fred Royal, Jack Schubert—and many were great resources after we began practicing." In school, Riparian members always found ways to spend special time together. They sponsored fall bus trips to Fenway Park for Red Sox vs. Yankee games and a winter bus trip for a Bruins vs. Rangers game at the old Boston Garden. Taylor recalled a "study guide" that Dave Sanders created for the group for a final semester class with Professor Gene Anderson. "Looking back, we all worked hard in law school and supported one another," said Taylor. "It's rare that I speak with someone who 'enjoyed' their law school experience. For me, they were wonderful years which I still remember fondly 30 years later."

Fellow Riparian member Bill Stanley agrees. "Not one of us wanted our law school experience to turn into 'The Paper Chase'—and it didn't. We

did the work for school, and had plenty of fun as well," said Stanley who now owns a home inspection firm in Cheshire, CT. "There are a million stories and whenever a few of us get together, they just start tumbling out and building on each other—and before we know it we are laughing as if it just happened yesterday. The Riparians are probably the greatest treasure I took from my law school career."

O'Grady recalled one Riparian moment that he said demonstrates that, while they were loyal, they were still practical. After their second year of law school, Rocco Abbatangelo and O'Grady applied for summer law clerk jobs with the Department of the Army. O'Grady received a call from the Pentagon telling him he had been hired and would be working at Fort Meade, MD. "That was a great location, halfway between Baltimore and Washington, site of the National Security Agency and not too far from Larry Cumberland who lived right on Chesapeake Bay," recounted O'Grady. He asked whether Abbatangelo had also been hired and was told yes, he was the next call they were making. O'Grady then asked whether there were two spots at Fort Meade, but unfortunately there was only one and Abbatangelo was to work "in the middle of nowhere" at Fort Hood, TX. "There were two spots available at Fort Hood, however and they said that I could be assigned there with Rocco instead of Fort Meade. I told the person at the Pentagon to tell Rocco to enjoy his time in Texas and that I would send him a postcard from Maryland," laughed O'Grady.

Over the years, the Riparians have gotten together (in varying numbers) at least once a year. They have vacationed with their families on Cape Cod, have been to Block Island together, had several trips to New York City, and went to Pittsburgh for Rocco Abbatangelo's wedding. "We've been to 10 or 11 Riparian weddings, most recently Kristin Mochnick's," said Taylor. "The Riparians gave Ann and me an antique brass bed as a wedding present, which we still have." Other trips have included Las Vegas, Maryland, and Martha's Vineyard. They've been to Final Four basketball tournaments in New Orleans, Seattle, and San Antonio. "There was one infamous trip to Montreal in '78 and most recently we invaded Dave

Riparians



(At left) A trip to Dave Sanders' '80 family vacation home in New Hampshire circa the summer of '79. The two young girls in the photo are Tom Mochnick's girls, Alexis, standing, and Kristin. They still refer to the place as "Lake Walk-a-lot."

(Below) Bill O'Grady '80 and Cheryl Parker '84 celebrating their 1982 wedding surrounded by Riparians on the eve of Halloween (thus the nose glasses). The photo was taken by Bill Stanley '80, "the only one responsible enough to own a camera at the time."



(Above) Riparians at the wedding of Kristin Mochnick, honorary member with her sister, Alexis, and daughters of Tom Mochnick, one of the core members of the group.

Sanders' apartment in DC," said O'Grady. A trip to Saratoga took place in August.

Email has helped facilitate the planning for their trips. However there was a slight mix-up when the recent email went out about the Saratoga trip. Several Riparians responded as to whether or not they could attend, adding their own bits of news and copying everyone on the list. "A few days later," recounts Taylor, "I received an email from someone in Iowa who had the same email address as an old Bill Stanley address and was included in the chain of emails. He let me know that he wouldn't be attending the Saratoga Springs reunion since he didn't know any of us, but he wished us a good time just the same."

The Riparians say they are sometimes surprised to see how quickly time has passed from that inaugural lunch that none of them could bear to leave. An invitation that began with "who wants to go to lunch?" now includes many invitations—to weddings, sports events, celebrations, and the most recent being "who wants to go to Saratoga?" The American Lower Riparian Association has cherished the love and support the members have given each other which has lasted from their challenging yet fun law school days to the beginning and establishment of their careers to the celebration of marriages and children.

"One of the most meaningful things I have ever done was when I was asked to

give a eulogy at Tom Mochnick's funeral a few years ago. Although it was gut-wrenching for me, it made me realize how close all of us had become over the years," recalls O'Grady. "Tom was one of the core members of our group. I think the only time Tom was speechless was when he was laughing so hard he couldn't speak. We had always gotten together a couple of times a year, but it now seems a lot more important when we do get together. It may only be two or three of us, or it may be several of us with our wives, but just being together...it's always a great event." ♦



(At left) "Abbondanza!" was the theme of this gathering at Becco on Restaurant Row in NYC

roundup of regional receptions



PORT JEFFERSON, Long Island (Photo Left: L-R) Law School Development Manager JoAnne O'Neil, Associate Dean Bill Childs, Dean Art Gaudio, Rob Carpentier '80, and Tony Mercep '80. (Photo Right: L-R) Natasha Thoren-Ross '06, Ron Waldman '83, Mike Borg '88, Kathy Small-Mazzara '87, and Karen Ferrare '87

MAY 19, 2009
Port Jefferson Reception
 Long Island, NY
 Nineteen alums and faculty enjoyed dinner at Pace's Steakhouse hosted by Ron Pace '79 (owner). Known for its signature steaks and attention to detail, the restaurant has been run for four generations by the Pace family. Attendee Mike Borg '88 called the evening "one of the best alumni events I can remember."



SARATOGA SPRINGS, NY (L-R) Marne Onderdonk '04 and Linda Fakhoury '04; Melissa Wilkins '84 and her husband; Sheila Fitzgerald '92; and Nina Daratsos '93

AUGUST 7, 2009
Saratoga Race Course
 Saratoga Springs, NY
 The beautiful 350-acre racetrack in Saratoga Springs, NY, was the setting for a summer reception. Fifty alumni and friends joined Dean Art Gaudio for a wonderful day at the races.

BOARD ACTIVITIES New Slate Approved

The Alumni Board of Directors has unanimously approved the slate of candidates as new directors to the board for the 2008-2011 term. Linda Fakhoury '04 is the Board President. Congratulations to these dedicated volunteers.

Seth Garbarsky '01
 Lori Granat-Dupell '01
 David Rock '05
 Julia Lentini '06

Hon. Mark Powers '84
 Nebiyu Feleke '00
 Enelsa Diaz '05

For up-to-the-minute alumni news, access to the Law Alumni Finder, or archive issues of past *Perspectives* magazines or the *Law Digest* newsletter, visit

www.law.wnec.edu/alumni

upcoming events

NOVEMBER 11
 New York City Alumni Reception
 at Darlene Orlov Art Studio, Sutton Place

NOVEMBER 12
 New Jersey Alumni Reception
 at Pazzo Pazzo Restaurant, Morristown

NOVEMBER 13
 10th Annual Dinner for Students and Alumni
 of Color at the Log Cabin, Holyoke, MA

NOVEMBER 18
 Hartford area Alumni Reception
 at Shipman & Goodwin



(Top Photo) Evan Skeary with his dad, Michael Skeary '85
(Bottom Photo) David Guelcher and Kyle Guelcher '02

ALUMS COME OUT FOR RED SOX GATHERINGS

There's nothing like a day at Fenway to reconnect with old friends and new from the School of Law. Our Red Sox gatherings continue to sell out with fans of the Sox and the School. This season we organized three trips to Fenway. Watch our publications and website for ticket sales for 2010!

May 24, 2009

Thirty-two alums, faculty, and staff attended a great game with the Mets. The Sox out-batted the Mets to win 12-5, putting them in first place for the first time this season.

July 11, 2009

This trip brought 28 fans out to cheer on the Sox in a game against Kansas City. With homers from Kevin Youkilis, Jason Varitek, and David Ortiz, the Sox took home the win 15-9.

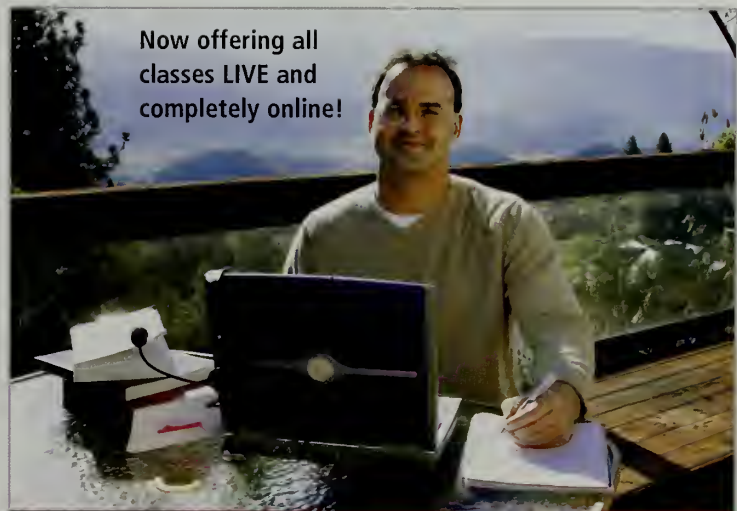
September 12, 2009

The matchup between the Sox and the American League Champion Rays drew 100 alumni, faculty, and staff. After a two-hour rain delay, the Sox took the win 9-1.

facebook

Expand your social network
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Social networking is a great way to reconnect with classmates and maintain professional contacts. Our presence on Facebook gives you yet another avenue to stay close to classmates and faculty at the School of Law. Search **Western New England College School of Law** and become a fan.



Now offering all
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THE LL.M. IN ESTATE PLANNING AND ELDER LAW

Above: Attorney John Hollister studies from his home in Napa Valley.

- Part-time evening program for practicing attorneys
- Start in January or September
- 24-credit hours—program can be completed in two years
- Only live, online estate planning and elder law LL.M. program in the country

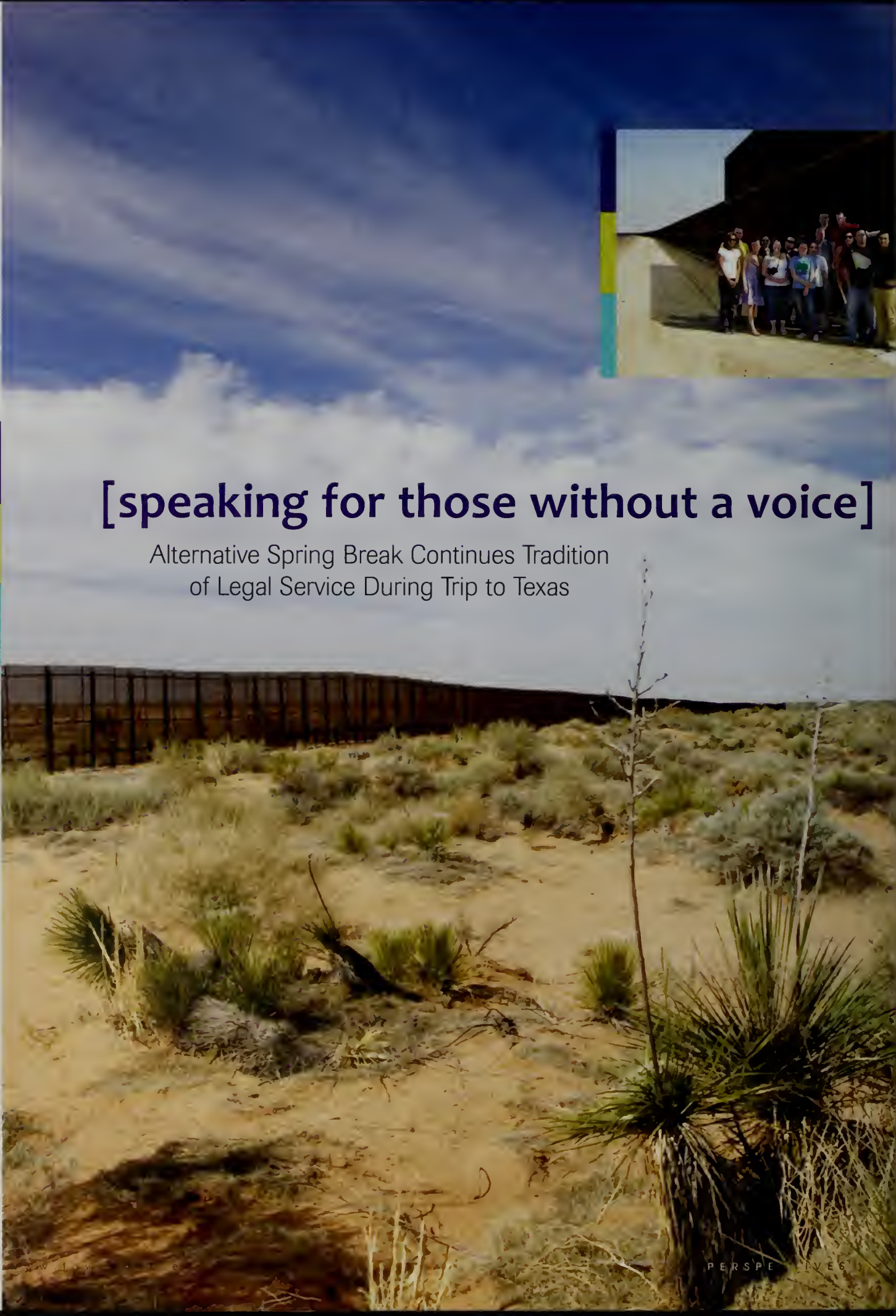
Accepting applications for January 2010.

Please visit our website for an application and more information at www.law.wnec.edu/llm.



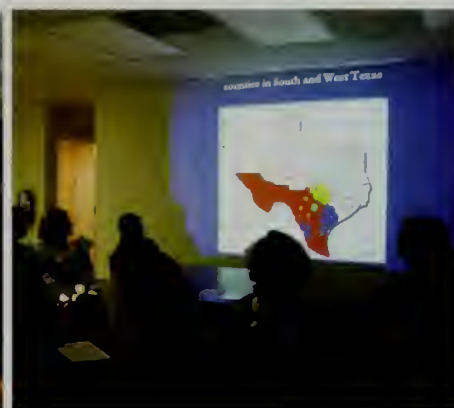
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For more information, contact Professor Frederick D. Royal, Program Director, at
413-782-1422 • 413-782-1426 • froyal@law.wnec.edu



[speaking for those without a voice]

Alternative Spring Break Continues Tradition
of Legal Service During Trip to Texas



In what is quickly becoming an annual tradition at the School of Law, 16 members of the Western New England College community set out on a weeklong journey to the United States/Mexico border this past March to offer legal service on immigration cases during an Alternative Spring Break trip to Texas.

Now in its third year at the School of Law, Alternative Spring Break offers students an opportunity to spend their mid-semester vacation week providing *pro bono* legal assistance to public interest groups around the nation. In previous years, Western New England College students, faculty, and staff have traveled to the Mississippi Gulf Coast and New Orleans to assist the Student Hurricane Network in the Hurricane Katrina recovery.

First year student Stephanie Silvas, a native of Beeville, TX, suggested the location of this year's trip. "Our group wanted to go somewhere where we could make a difference and help those who are less fortunate and I believe that we accomplished that goal," explained Stephanie.

The group worked for Texas RioGrande Legal Aid (TRLA), a full service, nonprofit legal organization located in Edinburg, TX, about 10 miles from the Mexican border on the eastern side of the state. Due to its proximity to the border, many of the cases they handle have an immigration component to them. The agency's service area covers over 97,000 square miles (more than 12 times the size of Massachusetts) and includes some of the poorest counties in the nation.

The students spent the majority of their time on cases involving unaccompanied, undocumented minors who were being detained by the border patrol. The students spent a good portion of the week pouring over boxes of discovery documents. While it might not sound like the most exciting legal work, it proved to be incredibly helpful to the agency.

"It was inspiring to get a chance to work on these cases since they could potentially have a huge impact on juvenile detention facilities as well as policies and procedures," said Lindsay McDonell 1L.

Alternative Spring Break trips offer students an opportunity to gain experience beyond the New England region while lending their expertise to those who truly need it.

"There is a long tradition of lawyers taking leadership roles in efforts to improve their communities," said Sam Charron, Assistant Director of Career Services and Public Interest Coordinator, who accompanied the group on the trip. "In addition to the fact that it feels really good to take part in these activities on an individual level, *pro bono* service is an ethical underpinning of the legal profession. The Alternative Spring Break trips are a great opportunity to continue this tradition."

"It is extremely important that people take an active role in bettering their community, whether it's locally, nationally, or globally," added Lindsay. "The reason I came to law school to begin with was to gain the necessary tools to allow me to work towards making positive changes within my community by helping the disadvantaged. One of the reasons I was drawn to Western New England College School of Law was its focus on public interest work, and the Alternative Spring Break trip is an essential part of that."

The trip also led to Stephanie and Lindsay landing summer work with TRLA. Stephanie returned to Texas while Lindsay was assigned to TRLA's Southern Migrant Legal Services team in Nashville.

"TRLA is a huge organization that was coincidentally starting a Public Defender's Program in my hometown," commented Stephanie. "I was able to get a law clerk position and do research on several criminal cases. It put me in a courtroom where I could see a criminal case from arraignment to sentencing. The criminal side definitely sparked my interest more, and I look forward to exploring that side of the law."

"While on Spring Break, I did a research project on a federal wrongful death case for TRLA Attorney Susan Watson," explained Lindsay. "At the end of the trip, she asked me if I would like to take a position as her Summer Clerk in their Nashville office. I worked primarily in the civil rights department. I began the summer working on one of the cases I had worked on during Spring Break. The majority of my time was spent drafting pleadings for both state and federal court. I was exposed to a variety of cases, and learned a great deal about civil suits involving the U.S. government and government employees."

In addition to the legal work the students did, the group visited the Border Wall, observed a state court proceeding, and met with a Texas State Appeals Court judge.

If you work in the public interest field and have a location or project that would be a good service trip for Alternative Spring Break or would just like to make a donation to help fund next year's trip, contact the Office of Career Services at 413-782-1416.



"The Confessor" 16th century, Hans Memling, oil on wood



By Mary McLean Orszulak

THE WALL STREET SHUFFLE

Phil Harris '85 on Managing the “CRISIS of TRUST”

On Fulton Street in Brooklyn the draw of a quick dollar plays out day after day as con artists turn cardboard boxes into street-side casinos, running the centuries-old game of Three Shells and a Pea: The Shell Game. While unsuspecting marks think choosing the right shell is a fair gamble, the game is actually a confidence trick used to hustle native New Yorkers and visitors alike. The attraction is as old as humanity: the lure of easy money.

Downtown on Wall Street in Lower Manhattan, the stakes are higher, but sometimes the game ends the same. People are willing to hedge their bets, if they think they can beat the odds. But when the shells are empty, or people like Bernie Madoff have fixed the game, they too wind up empty-handed.

On Fulton Street, the losers walk away with only a hard life lesson to console them. On Wall Street, however, there are legal experts ready to help them pick up the pieces.

Asset management lawyer Philip Harris '85, a partner with Skadden, Arps, Meagher, & Flom LLP, is one of those experts. As described in Roger Lowenstein's critically acclaimed book, *When Genius Failed: The Rise and Fall of Long-Term Capital Management*, he is among the respected few whom clients and industry leaders call in the wee hours when systems have failed and trusts have been broken.

Since joining Skadden in 1986, Phil has represented numerous hedge fund and private equity fund managers, broker-dealers, banks, and insurance companies in structuring a variety of types of private direct investment and funding of funds. He has also represented a number of Japanese financial institutions and industrial companies.

He explains, "In the modern world that I live in, a typical hedge fund will be raising money in 15 or 20 different countries simultaneously so

it's really global finance. They're selling securities in many different countries on a private basis. It's sort of a complex mélange of securities, international law, and tax and once they're managing the money life is good...until they stumble.

"When they have a problem, some of them go quietly into the night and others are spectacular front-page news—they explode."

Phil's reputation, as the go-to guy when things fall apart, was solidified through his role in the "financial crisis that wasn't"—the industry bailout of Long-Term Capital Management (LTCM) in 1998. When the rising Wall Street superstar suddenly failed, banks and rivals were asked by the Fed to step in to avert a financial collapse that may have been a precursor to the 2008 Financial Crisis.

LTCM had realized high returns as the first management firm to tap Nobel Prize winning

mathematical academicians to gain an edge on statistical arbitrage. It pioneered computer forecasting, but was blindsided by the Russian Financial Crisis, losing more than \$4.6 billion.

"Everyone involved in the LTCM situation from the industry side saw a prelude to what just happened," says Phil. "There were an enormous number of opaque and swap derivative agreements. There was an enormous amount of leverage. There were counterparties who had no access to actual real information. All the agreements were tied to one another through cross defaults. The people who were involved in it all said, 'Boy, we have to learn from this; we have to make sure this doesn't happen anymore.' In hindsight, maybe the best thing that could have happened in 1998 was for it to actually have failed."

But after an intense and sleepless week, Phil and legions of attorneys along with financial leaders did hammer out a bailout that averted a worldwide crisis. Phil recalls, "I was the architect of that bailout and lived with them for years as we disassembled LTCM and let it go on its way." Through such experiences he says, "You develop a certain reputation that when somebody's really in trouble you're the cool head that they call to try to sort it all out." He adds, "People have a tendency to deny reality until it's really slapped them in the face."

According to Phil, such fund managers and their clients can live deep in a state of denial until the bottom drops out. He says, "Usually, it's when some counterparty refuses to fund their business or starts threatening to take away all their collateral because they're about to go into default that we get the call. Or they've lost a spectacular amount of money like Amaranth and the investors have lost all confidence in the manager. Because, ultimately, when investors give their money to someone, they're entrusting them with the money whether they're fiduciaries or individuals."

That trust, explains Phil, can be lost in several ways such as through misconduct, simply being a victim of market losses, or poor communication. Hedge fund managers are "notorious for wanting to preserve their trading secrets," says Phil. "They're afraid people will steal their ideas so they don't want to give too much information to investors because they're trying to protect it. But once suspicion grows, it's very diffi-



Phil Harris '85 was selected for inclusion in *Chambers Global: The World's Leading Lawyers for Business 2009*, *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business 2009*, *The Best Lawyers in America 2010*, and *Super Lawyers*.

cult to regain trust; the entire asset management business is really about trust."

At such times, fund managers turn to firms like Skadden for advice on their legal rights under the terms of their agreements, what Phil calls the "judgment part that they actually hire you for." He says, "Sometimes you have to break the agreements to do the right thing for the investors. It's not the end of the world to breach an agreement, but if managers ever want to manage money again they have to find a way to regain the trust of the investors."

As with the LTCM bailout and the near collapse of markets last fall, the industry is quick to forget lessons learned and slow to affect change. However, Phil cautions that one bill on the horizon could have dramatic implications for managers and their investors. He says, "New legislation pending before Congress proposed by the Obama Administration basically says that all asset managers are fiduciaries—that's a fundamental change in the law. The federal common law fiduciary duty has never existed. Historically, for asset managers in the U.S., the Advisers Act was basically a disclosure statute that said, 'If I tell you what I'm doing and I do it with full disclosure, I can do anything—even steal your money.'

"Investors need to fundamentally understand that even though they have negotiated these arrangements with advisers, and think that they have arrangements with advisers that specifically detail what they can do, the manager has in fact negotiated a virtual plenipotentiary authority to manage the money."

The results of handing over that power are now all too clear. A current focus of

Phil's practice today is on clients devastated by the Bernie Madoff Ponzi scheme. With the markets on the upturn and risk averse investors retesting the waters, Phil sees few regulatory changes that could protect investors from such determined predators.

"It's certainly true that he could have been stopped at any number of points along the way," observes Phil. "I represent a number of the intermediaries and have spent a lot of time since the day it happened with a lot of our clients. It is fascinating. The repercussions will be significant in terms of how people trust one another both in their communities and vis-à-vis the people they trust with their money. He fooled an awful lot of people; he was really very brilliant at what he did and in manipulating expectations. I don't think we'll ever know what was going on in his head."

For Phil, such scandals and crises underpin the real dangers of betting America's future on risky investments. He feels that in order for the U.S. to be competitive with economies like China and India it needs to make a free college education accessible to all students, to promote teaching as a valued and well paid profession, and to reclaim its place as a technological innovator.

"The future is in science," asserts Phil. "It's not about shuffling paper—not that paper doesn't matter. But our best and brightest students shouldn't all go to Wall Street."

"Ultimately," Phil believes, "I think we're not going to be judged kindly. The sheer motivation of the American people and the desire of individual people to better themselves will probably cause us to do OK, but there's going to be a huge debt to pay." ♦



"Impacting Communities. Influencing Economies"

Western New England College Releases Economic Impact Study

The presence of a college campus has a unique impact on local and regional economies. Western New England College has just released a comprehensive Economic Impact Study that evaluates its role as an economic engine within the economies of Springfield, Hampden County, and more broadly, New England's Knowledge Corridor. The Knowledge Corridor, so named for its inclusion of 26 colleges and universities, consists of Franklin, Hampshire, and Hampden Counties in Massachusetts and Hartford County in Connecticut.

A Powerful Economic Engine

This study, the first of its kind for Western New England College, utilizes data on direct spending in the form of salaries and benefits paid to employees as well as purchased goods and services and spending by students to form a picture of how the College directly contributes to these three economies.

Additionally, it applies the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) RIMS-II model to estimate the indirect effects of Western New England spending. These indirect effects include the recirculation of dollars within the local and regional economies through increased economic output and both employment and earnings supported by College spending. For example, building of the new wing at the Blake Law Center or the new Academic Science Building in development creates jobs in construction and its associated industries locally. People in these industries recirculate much of their earnings within the local and regional economies.

The study also describes the considerable contributions made by Western New England College staff and students through uncompensated volunteer activities such as internships, externships, or consulting. It also details the College's dedication to making its facilities accessible to the local community for programs and events. Although the actual monetary values to the local and regional economies are difficult to calculate, these activities represents contributions in-kind with value easily measured in the hundreds of thousands, if not in the millions of dollars annually.

Building Momentum for the Future

Even in these challenging economic times, ongoing construction projects at the College are adding an additional \$60 million and more than 200 jobs to the region's economy. In the longer term, implementation of the College's Strategic Plan for 2009-2018 will permanently add more than \$10 million annually to the combined economies of Hampden, Hampshire, Franklin, and Hartford counties.

To read the Economic Impact Study in its entirety, visit www.wnec.edu/economic.



"The College actively supports the economic growth of our region, and profoundly influences the lives of all who learn, work, and live here, whether within or beyond our campus. The total economic impact of the College on Hampden County alone is \$209 million annually. This amount increases to \$260 million annually for the Knowledge Corridor."

Kevin S. Delbridge '77, Chair of the Board of Trustees, at the groundbreaking ceremonies for the new Academic Science Building

Our Economic Impact @ a Glance



Over 70 percent of the College's annual purchases, or approximately \$20.4 million, are made from businesses with offices located within the Knowledge Corridor while \$17.2 million are purchased entirely within Hampden County, including many Springfield based businesses.



The College is one of the largest employers in the region, annually employing more than 900 individuals in permanent, part-time, and temporary positions with payroll of nearly \$38.5 million.



The College annually awards more than \$23 million in direct institutional grant aid, including tuition remission and exchange, to students attending the College. The total of all grant aid awarded by or through the College, coupled with student employment, was more than \$28 million in Fiscal Year 2008.

Tapping Faculty Talent

By Mary McLean Orszulak



Cohen and Childs Take on New Administrative Roles

Every few years in the life cycle of our School, professors are tapped to step out of their roles as legal educators and into administrative positions to apply their expertise in new ways. At the end of their commitments, they step back into the faculty full-time with a new appreciation for their areas of oversight. After five years of outstanding service, Associate Deans Eric Gouvin and Sam Stonefield are turning over their administrative responsibilities to two highly capable colleagues: Professors Beth Cohen and Bill Childs.

"Beth and Bill are two energetic faculty members who have worked with faculty and students for several years in various committee assignments," commented Dean Art Gaudio. "They understand the needs and concerns of the students and faculty. They will bring new perspectives to their offices and continue the effort to make Western New England College the best school in America at which to earn a law degree."

► **Beth Cohen:** *Associate Dean for Academic Affairs*

"I am delighted to have the opportunity to collaborate with students, faculty, and administrators on new and exciting initiatives that will benefit the School and the broader community," said Beth D. Cohen, newly appointed Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

With oversight of all academic matters, the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs works closely with students, faculty, and other administrators to ensure compliance with the academic standards established by the School and the American Bar Association that set forth the standards for maintaining and delivering a quality legal education to each and every student.

"I look forward to supporting the School's commitment to provide a quality legal education in a supportive environment, and training lawyers as effective problem-solvers," said Cohen.

The appointment provides an opportunity for Dean Cohen to play a role in promoting the School's core value of practical lawyering in the context of a 21st century legal education.

"This is a very exciting and challenging time in legal education," asserted Cohen. "Most notably, the 2007 Carnegie Report and Best Practices in Legal Education Report tout the benefits of acquiring formal legal knowledge together with practical experience, something long valued at Western New England College School of Law.

"I look forward to working with students, faculty, and administrators from this new vantage point to further develop a curriculum that maximizes opportunities for learning and growth."

Dean Cohen will also continue to serve as Director of the Legal Research and Writing Program and teach a section of the first-year Legal Research and Writing course. She has been a member of the faculty for 19 years, teaching Legal Research and Writing as well as such courses as Advanced Legal Research and Writing, the Legal Education Achievement Program, the Judicial Externship Seminar, and Professional Responsibility.

Prior to teaching at Western New England College, Professor Cohen taught Legal Practice Skills at Suffolk University Law School, where as a student she served on the *Suffolk University Law Review*. She has served as a Law Clerk to the Honorable Michael A. Ponsor of the United States District Court in Springfield, and was an Associate at a general practice law firm in Boston. She holds a B.A. from the State University of New York at Stony Brook, earned her J.D. from Suffolk University Law School, and earned a Diploma in Advanced International Legal Studies in Salzburg, Austria, from the University of the Pacific, McGeorge Law School. She was hired as Director of the Legal Research and Writing Program in 2000.

► **Bill Childs:** *Associate Dean for External Affairs*

Professor Bill Childs has been appointed Associate Dean for External Affairs. Said Childs, "I will be working closely with our great staffs in Admissions, Career Services, and Alumni Relations to continue to bring in great classes of new students, to help them find job opportunities, and to keep in touch with them (and them in touch with each other) after graduation."

Along with his new role, Childs will remain active in teaching and continue to coach the award-winning Products Liability Moot Court Team. Said Childs, "I will teach Torts every fall, which I'm very happy about as I love teaching 1Ls. In the spring, I will probably alternate between Products Liability and a writing seminar called Experts and Scientific Evidence."

Prior to joining our faculty, Professor Childs served as an Associate in the Washington, DC, law firm Williams & Connolly LLP, working as a litigator in mass tort, intellectual property, and commercial law cases. He was instrumental in two of the first three trials in pharmaceutical litigation (involving over 10,000 cases), both of which resulted in verdicts for the firm's client. Arguments included evidentiary motions and an appeal in a plaintiff's \$21 million commercial dispute. He also clerked for Chief Judge James M. Rosenbaum, United States District Court for the District of Minnesota.

Dean Childs earned a B.A. from Macalester College and a J.D. with high honors from the University of Texas School of Law where he was Chief Articles Editor for the *Texas Law Review* and a member of the research staff for Michael Tigar, lead counsel for Terry Nichols, defendant in the Oklahoma City bombing case.

A prolific writer, Childs also offers his opinions through his Internet blogs. He is the editor of TortsProf Blog, part of the *LawProfessorBlogs* network. He also authors a new law blog, *WNEC Blawg*, part of the redesign of the School of Law website.

Said Childs, "My broad goal is to focus on communications in all of the areas of my new job, whether it's with prospective and current students, employers, or alumni. We'll be doing that in a lot of ways, including a new website and blog, social media, and the tried-and-true in-person conversations. I'll also be working closely with Deans Gaudio and Cohen to consider what we can do to provide an even better educational experience to our students."



FACULTY and STAFF NOTES



CAFARO



CARASIK



COHEN



FLYNN



GOUVIN



KAISER



MILLER



NEWCOMBE

Tina Cafaro L'95, Associate Clinical Professor of Law, served as a panel member and lecturer for the Massachusetts Bar Association's Program titled "Representing the OUI Client," speaking specifically about the use of Drug Recognition Officers in impaired driving cases.

Lauren Carasik, Clinical Professor of Law, published "Think Global, Act Global: The Praxis of Social Justice Lawyering in the Global Era" in the fall 2008 edition of the *Clinical Law Review*.

Beth Cohen, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, Director, Legal Research and Writing, Program, Associate Professor of Law, was elected to serve a two-year term on the Board of Scribes, at the ABA annual meeting in Chicago. Scribes, the American Society of Legal Writers, was founded in 1953 to honor legal writers and encourage a "clear, succinct, and forceful style in legal writing." Dean Cohen also served as a judge for the annual Scribes Best Brief Award contest. She also served as a judge in the National Association of Women Lawyers Selma Moidel Student Writing Competition.

Taylor Flynn, Professor of Law, recently published the law review article: "Instant (Gender) Messaging: Expression-Based Challenges to State Enforcement of Gender Norms," in the *Temple Political and Civil Rights Law Review*.

Eric Gouvin, Professor of Law, was named to the Fulbright Senior Specialist roster by the Council for the International Exchange of Scholars. During the next five years, he may have up to two projects funded by the Fulbright program. He is currently working on arranging an invitation to a foreign law school during his sabbatical in the spring of 2010.

Professor Gouvin was appointed to chair a site inspection team by the ABA. This is his third appointment to an inspection team and his first time chairing.

Professor Gouvin was reappointed to chair the Adjunct Faculty Committee of the Section on Legal Education and Admission to the Bar of the American Bar Association.

Professor Gouvin was appointed by incoming ABA President Carolyn Lamm to the Advisory Committee to the ABA's Standing Committee on Substance Abuse. He will serve for the 2009-2010 term.

On April 16, 2009, Professor Gouvin assembled and moderated a panel at the Spring Meeting of the Business Law Section of the American Bar Association in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, on the topic "It IS a Small World After All: Cross Cultural Sensitivity for Business Lawyers." The panel examined the challenges and rewards of engaging in legal work across national borders.

On April 24, 2009, Professor Gouvin and the team from the Kauffman Foundation's eLaw website development project, of which he is a member, unveiled the eLaw website and discussed its attributes and functionality at the Eighth Annual Transactional Law Clinic Conference and Workshop held at the George Washington University Law School. The eLaw website is designed to be a forum to facilitate the teaching of entrepreneurship in both clinical settings and the traditional classroom. Aimed primarily at professors in higher education, the website serves to collect resources for educators and to promote discussion within the academy. The effort is sponsored by the Kauffman Foundation of Kansas City, which specializes in promoting entrepreneurship. Professor Gouvin enlisted the help of the School of Law librarians, Patricia Newcombe,

Associate Director, and Research Librarian Patrick Tracy, to help assemble a comprehensive bibliography of entrepreneurship materials for the scholarship section of the eLaw site.

Professor Gouvin's contribution to the symposium issue of the *Western New England Law Review* publishing the proceedings of the Third Annual Conference on Entrepreneurship and Community Economic Development was published in the spring. The citation is "Forward: Entrepreneurship in a Green, Flat, Cash-Strapped World."

Jeanne Kaiser, Assistant Professor Legal Research and Writing, served as appellate counsel for the father in *Adoption of Rico*, a case before the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court, in which the court expanded on the contours of post-adoption contact between children and parents whose parental rights have been terminated. Kaiser also presented "When the Truth and the Story Collide: What We Can Learn from the Experience of Non-Fiction Writers About the Limits of Story-Telling Legal Writing" at a conference sponsored by the Legal Writing Institute at Lewis and Clark Law School in Portland, OR. The conference was called "Once Upon a Legal Time, Chapter 2: Applied Story-Telling in the Law."

Bruce Miller, Professor of Law, appeared as a guest columnist in the *Jurist Legal News & Research* commenting in the op-ed forum with an article titled "The Supreme Court and Al-Marri: No Virtue Now in Judicial Passivity." Professor Miller also contributed an article published in the *Hampshire Gazette* titled "Torture inquiry is our constitutional duty."



NOAH

SHAY

STONEFIELD

Pat Newcombe, Associate Director of the Law Library, wrote a chapter in the new edition of *Fundamentals of Legal Research* titled "Legal Citation Form," in *Fundamentals of Legal Research*, Barkan, Mersky & Dunn, 9th ed., 2009, Foundation Press—Chapter 24.

Barbara Noah, Professor of Law, published "Just a Spoonful of Sugar: Drug Safety for Pediatric Populations" in the *Journal of Law Medicine & Ethics*, in the Summer 2009 issue. She also presented a paper at the American Society for Law, Medicine & Ethics annual meeting at Case Western Reserve University School of Law in June 2009, and social and cultural influences on end-of-life planning and decision-making.

Giovanna Shay, Assistant Professor of Law, presented "Unexamined Law-Making: Prison and Jail Regulation" at the Feminist Legal Theory Workshop at Emory University in February 2009. She also coauthored an article for the *Prison Legal News* titled "Preserving the Rule of Law in America's Jails and Prison: A Proposal for Amending the Prison Litigation Reform Act." 2009 *Survey of Books Related to Women and the Law: Review: Locked Up, Overlooked: Women Behind Bars: The Crisis of Women in the U.S. Prison System*, *PACE Law Review*.

Along with Christopher N. Lasch, in June 2009, Professor Shay was also a guest blogger on the *American Constitution Society* blog, commenting on the U.S. Supreme Court's recent decision in *Haywood v. Drown* in a post entitled *The Door Stop: Haywood v. Drown Keeps State Courts Open For Now*. Also with Chris Lasch, Professor Shay wrote a letter to the *New York Times* magazine in response to the *Times* article *What's Liberal Justice Now?*, published on June 8, 2009.

Sam Stonefield, Professor of Law, gave a presentation "Privileges under the Massachusetts Guide to Evidence" at Guide to the Guide, a conference on the new Massachusetts Guide to Evidence, at Suffolk University Law School in February 2009.



BALDWIN



BUZUVIS



CHILDS



GOUVIN



LEAVENS



MILLER



MUNNINGS GRIFFIN



SHAY



STONEFIELD



WOLF



ZIMMER

Faculty & Staff in the Media

Bridgette Baldwin	3/25/2009	WHYN-AM	Anti-gang Laws
Erin Buzuvis	3/12/2009	WNPR	Title IX Lawsuit
	4/8/2009	<i>Birmingham News</i>	Title IX & Obama
William Childs	3/30/2009	<i>Orlando Sentinel</i>	Theme Park Lawsuits
	4/22/2009	<i>The Republican</i>	Moot Court Championship
	6/5/2009	<i>Daily Hampshire Gazette</i>	Life Lessons
Eric Gouvin	6/18/2009	WSHM	Pizza Delivery Lawsuit
Arthur Leavens	3/16/2009	WGGB-TV	Voter Approval of Judges
Bruce Miller	7/30/2009	<i>Daily Hampshire Gazette</i>	Torture Investigation
Aimee Munnings Griffin	6/10/2009	<i>The Republican</i>	Multicultural Award
Giovanna Shay	5/26/2009	WHYN-AM	Sotomayor Nomination
	6/3/2009	<i>American Constitution Society</i>	<i>Haywood v. Drown</i>
	6/14/2009	<i>The New York Times</i>	Dialectical Federalism
	7/1/2009	<i>Prison Legal News</i>	Prison Litigation Reform
	7/10/2009	<i>Hartford Advocate</i>	Hunger Striking Inmate
Sam Stonefield	3/30/2009	<i>BusinessWest</i>	Legal Job Market
Arthur Wolf	3/17/2009	<i>The Republican</i>	Voter Approval of Judges
	4/5/2009	<i>The Republican</i>	Judicial Independence
	4/10/2009	WAQY-FM	Judicial Independence
	5/26/2009	WGGB-TV	Sotomayor Nomination
	5/27/2009	<i>The Republican</i>	Sotomayor Nomination
Paula Zimmer	3/9/2009	<i>Connecticut Law Tribune</i>	Legal Job Market

Erin Wilson 2L

Erin Wilson had always wanted to live in Alaska. As one of the School of Law's public interest scholars, she was granted a one-time summer stipend, in addition to her significant tuition scholarship, to participate in public interest legal work at an organization that would not otherwise have had the resources to hire a summer intern.

After receiving her summer stipend, Wilson sought out an opportunity to work for the Alaska Immigration Justice Project, a legal aid organization working primarily with clients who have immigration issues.

Wilson marveled at summer days in which the sun never seemed to set, witnessed breathtaking scenery while backpacking in Denali National Park, and appreciated the experience of finding her own apartment and getting around in a place where she knows no one, while doing what she loves.

"I've had my hands in a lot of cases...doing lots of research; writing letters to clients explaining their options; writing court briefs; meeting with clients to prepare applications for cancellation of removal when they are facing deportation and separation from their families," she says. "One of the most interesting things I've been involved with is asylum cases—helping people who are fleeing persecution. I've developed a real interest in asylum law and trafficking."

"I knew I may never have an opportunity like this again," continues Wilson. "I wanted to experience an entirely different part of the country to learn about the unique legal issues faced by the people there. It's such a fulfilling experience, personally...taking on these cases, helping people who wouldn't normally be able to get help. It makes me feel more passionate about being a lawyer."



Public Interest Interns:

This summer they got their feet wet.

Michael Prasad 2L

Several years ago, Michael Prasad left a job for which he had no passion to pursue a law degree, an option he'd at times considered but never acted on. He was later accepted as a public interest scholar at the School of Law, and spent this summer performing a research internship at Verité, an independent, nonprofit organization headquartered in Amherst, MA, that monitors labor issues around the world.

Prasad's primary responsibility this summer has been to coauthor a report on U.S. labor and immigration law and how it relates to the nation's guest worker program, which enables non-immigrants to come to the United States and work jobs on a temporary basis.

"We're looking for any gaps in the law; changes; trying to predict where things are headed. It's exposed me to all types of law," says Prasad.

"I've taken a lot away from it—and it's my sincere hope that I've put out and contributed as much as I feel I've gotten in return," he says. "My ability to write and communicate has improved dramatically. I've really had to learn how to understand the law...to figure out how to take the concepts and make them understandable to people who don't have a legal background. That has been tremendously beneficial."

Prasad is unsure which type of public interest lawyering he will eventually pursue, but knows this: "I'm interested in finding good working results and actually being able to positively affect people."

"I find it abhorrent when a class of people is denied access to the law," he says. "That's really what drives and motivates me, and that's probably why I've been unable to narrow down what I actually want to do. There are so many causes worth advocating and fighting for."



Robert Skiba 3L

When Robert Skiba took a labor law class at the School of Law, his interest was piqued, and when a professor mentioned an internship with the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB), he decided to explore the opportunity. He applied in the winter and in May began an internship at the NLRB's Newark, NJ, headquarters.

The National Labor Relations Board is an independent government agency responsible for investigating and remedying unfair labor practices. Working with the help of a supervising attorney, Skiba savored the opportunity to apply and practice what he's learned in the classroom.

"This is not an internship where they send you off to go file something. The experience I've gained is great," Skiba says. "They give me my own cases. I 'harass' the other attorneys with questions. Everyone here is more than willing to answer them."

Many of the cases Skiba handled involved people who claim to have been wrongly fired and that their union did not process their grievance. Skiba's responsibilities include gathering information from the charging and charged parties, taking an affidavit, examining the evidence, and determining whether or not the case has merit.

After a summer spent immersed in labor law, Skiba is increasingly confident he would like to continue on this path in the future.

"I like what I'm doing," he says. "If I can help people and get something out of my job, then that's great."

A commitment to the public interest—*Pro Bono Publico*—is imbedded in the culture and curriculum at the School of Law. Opportunities abound for students hoping to pursue a career in public interest law, including clinical and externship opportunities. *Perspectives* caught up with four students who spent their summers gaining valuable "real world" experience in public interest lawyering.



Kelly Samuels 3L

Kelly Samuels spent this summer back in her hometown of Pittsfield, MA, working for an attorney in the Housing department of Western Massachusetts Legal Services. One of the tools she brought with her was empathy.

"I understand what it's like, to be in the position some of these people are in," Samuels says. "I feel as if I'm basically helping my neighbors."

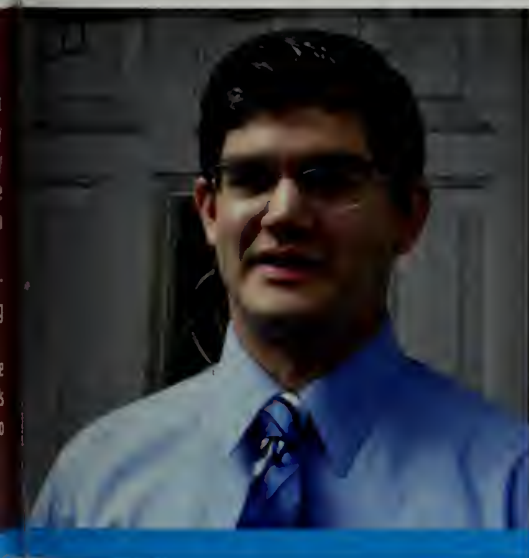
Samuels is a single mom who went back to school when her daughter was a baby—first to Berkshire Community College, then graduating with highest honors from Smith College, and later receiving a full scholarship to attend the School of Law.

Among her responsibilities at Western Massachusetts Legal Services was offering support to clients facing eviction. As part of a free weekly housing clinic, Samuels helped clients learn of their rights and how to access them.

"For some of these people, it's not their fault. They've been laid off or had an illness. We've helped them work out payment plans," she says. "We also help people in HUD housing living with housing code violations. We'll take their case and go to court; help them use the court to get the landlord to fix the violations."

Often in her work Samuels has encountered other single moms who are surprised to learn her background and see how far she's come.

"Poverty can be a very defining characteristic. It can sometimes feel like who you are and not what your social situation is," she says. "But there are ways to live in poverty and work through it. My life can help show them there are options. I'm so grateful for the help I've received."



New Planned Giving Website Helps Both Alumni and Professional Advisors

Whether you're planning your own or a client's estate, options abound for helping cherished organizations in the future while providing tax benefits right away.

Our new Planned Giving website, created by the Office of Advancement at Western New England College, is a valuable resource to both individuals and professional advisors when considering such planning.

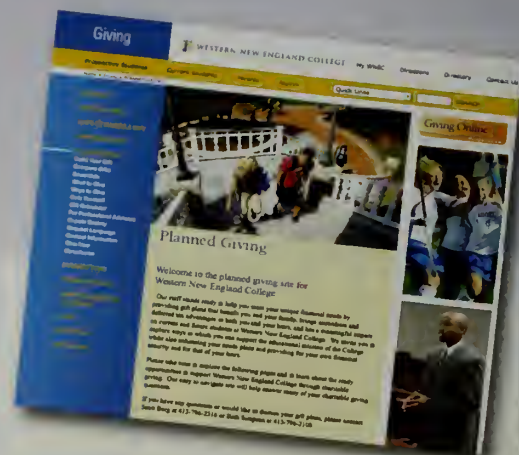


“We are excited to introduce to our alumni our new Planned Giving website,” said Beverly Dwight, the College’s Vice President for Advancement. “We created the site with the intention to provide our alumni with an insightful resource center that would, among other things, allow users to discover estate planning techniques and essentials, give guidance on the many ways one can leave a legacy, and keep users up-to-date on current planning trends and law changes. We hope alumni and other visitors will find the site user-friendly, interesting, and informative.”

The site discusses gift plans that can benefit donors and their families, bring immediate and deferred tax advantages, and have a meaningful impact on current and future students at the School of Law.

For those new to planned giving, the site offers a “Build Your Gift” planner. You can use the “Compare Gifts” options to see how your choices match up. It also offers a “Self-quiz” feature and a planned gift calculator. Clicking on the e-Brochures link lets you request specific information on types of planned gifts and estate planning basics.

For professional advisors, including our many law alumni who work in estate planning, the site features a page designed especially for you. That page contains a link to Official Bequest Language when including Western New England College School of Law in your estate plans and also provides a professional advisors’ reference library with frequent updates on tax changes and other laws relating to planned giving.



The site presents monthly feature articles, including:

Use Your IRA to Help Others

Don't miss this second chance to make tax-free gifts from your IRA! Under the reinstated charitable IRA legislation, individuals 70 1/2 or older can make gifts to us using funds transferred directly from IRAs—without reporting it as taxable income.

Giving in Tough Times Can Provide More for Your Heirs and Cut Taxes

Americans today are anxious about their money. Their stock values are falling and their 401(k) plans are so low that it's hard to open the quarterly statements. It may be the wrong time to think about charitable giving—or is it?

What to Do After a Loved One Dies

The death of a close relative is one of the most heartbreaking and difficult events you can experience. In a time such as this, we hope this list will help you navigate the important financial decisions you'll need to make in the first month.

Three Smart Ways to Support Us on a Budget

With just a little planning, you can find a better way to help us carry out our mission of your School of Law.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss your gift plans, please contact
Elizabeth Simpson '09 at 413-796-2108
or JoAnne O'Neil at 413-782-1523.

www.wnec.edu/plannedgiving



Welcome Class of 2009!

ALUMNI Notes FALL 2009

1970

Class Agent Hon. Peter Sokaris email: usapgs@cs.com

1973

Class Agent Walter Powell email: wvp29@aol.com

Walter V. Powell has retired from Slippery Rock University after 44 years as a Professor of Law and Political Science. He was the Pre-law Chair in Charge of Law Programs and has been practicing law since 1974 and will continue to do so.

1974

35 Years

35th CLASS REUNION
October 17, 2009

1975

Class Agent Richard Fortier email: rfortier02@snet.net

1976

Class Agent Gary Thomas email: gary@wealthtechnology.com

1977

Class Agent Marty Martin email: marty_martin@bellsouth.net

Hyman G. Darling attended the annual program of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys (NAELA) in Washington, DC, where he was elected to the National Board of Directors. Darling, a certified elder law attorney accredited by the National Elder Law Foundation, presented two topics to the academy's lawyers. One was an annual update regarding income tax, gift tax, and estate tax recent changes. The second topic was entitled "I Do or I Don't—How to counsel an elder client whether to marry or not."

Hon. Melvin K. Westmoreland, Superior Court Judge of Atlanta's Judicial Circuits, convened the Council of Superior Court Judges semiannual meeting in Atlanta, as president of the Council.

1978

Hon. William Abrashkin has been appointed by the Springfield Housing Authority as Executive Director of the Board of Regional Employment of Hampden County as well as the Board of Corporators of the Mason-Wright Foundation, which manages a retirement community for underprivileged elderly residents.

Robert C. Adamski's book entitled *Inheritance Hijackers: Who Wants to Steal Your Inheritance and How to Protect It* has recently been published.

Michael K. Ligorano was the speaker for the community education program sponsored by the Superior Court of New Jersey (Vicinage 13) Advisory Committee on Minority Concerns entitled "What You Should Know As A New Jersey Immigrant." Ligorano focuses his practice on land use and immigration law and heads the Norris McLaughlin & Marcus Immigration Law Group.

Hon. Gary Wodlinger has been confirmed as Superior Court Judge of Cumberland County, NJ.

1979

30 Years

30th CLASS REUNION
October 17, 2009

Class Agents:
Andrew Aloe email: aaloe@mac.org
Anne Geoffrion email: amgeoffrion@prodigy.net
Deborah Grover email: attorneygrover@comcast.net
Lew Kurland email: l.kurland@aol.com

Paul P. Nicolai
For the second year in a row has been named in the international publication *The Best Lawyers in America* in the specialty of commercial litigation for 2009.

Bill Fallon recently watched the first race of Military Star, a horse he co-owns with several partners, at Saratoga Race Course. After a photo-finish, Military Star came in fourth in his maiden race. Bill is a longtime Partner at Fallon, Sullivan, Dunphy & Mulvaney in Springfield, MA. His son, Connor, is a first-year law student at Western New England College School of Law.



Darling '77



Abrashkin '78



Nicolai '79



Fallon '79

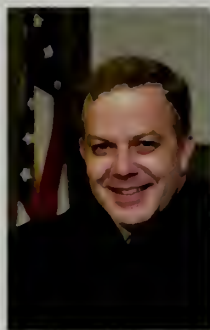


Military Star

(continued next page)



Hylemon '87



Robbins '90



Freeman '93



Sheehan '93



Zubi '94



Sloan DeLaney '95

1981

Class Agent Bill Stevens
email: wmstevens@snet.net

1982

Patrick A. Lang has been appointed Vice President of Sales Strategies and Business Development for National Life Group in Montpelier, VT.

1983

Class Agents
Maureen Burns email: meb@pellegrinolawfirm.com
Ellen Teller email: eteller@trac.org

Dennis Caraher, Applications Analyst in the Office of Information Technologies at the University of Massachusetts, has been awarded a Parents' Choice Gold Medal Award for his latest CD for kids, "I Miss the Mud."

Craig Denning has been appointed by Albany County Executive Mike Breslin to serve as Albany County Attorney. Denning has provided legal counsel to the county since 1987, most recently serving as Deputy County Attorney.

Teresa Whalen is the proud recipient of the John Adams Award. This award was pre-

sented by the Federal Defender James Wyda and the U.S. District Court for her outstanding representation of defendants in the federal courts of Maryland. Ms. Whalen, a former Senior Assistant State's Attorney for Montgomery County, is the first woman to be presented this award. She has been defending matters in federal court since 1998, including several defendants facing the death penalty, in addition to her private practice concentrating on criminal defense and employment law.

1984

25 Years

25th CLASS REUNION
October 17, 2009

Class Agent Ina Forman
email: aliforman@aol.com

Curt Hamakawa, Assistant Professor of Sport Management and Director of the Center for International Sport Business at Western New England College, published "International Sport Marketing: Branding and Promoting the 2006 Olympic Winter Games" in the fall 2008 edition of *Journal of Business Cases & Applications*.

1985

Class Agent Pete Steingraber
email: cisco3ack@aol.com

Hon. Paul V. Frank is beginning his 15th year as Family Court Magistrate in Jefferson County (NY). He recently returned to the School of Law and was very impressed by the modernization and expansion that has taken place.

1986

Class Agent Judith Jones
email: jonesjh@aetna.com

1987

Class Agent
Robert Murphy email: rmurphy@bacon-wilson.com

Charles R. Casartello Jr. has been sworn in as President of the Hampden County Bar Association. Attorney Casartello is a Partner at the law firm of Pellegrini, Seeley, Ryan & Blakesley, P.C. in Springfield, MA.

Richard Hulme has joined Fidelity Investments as a Director of Contracts and resides in Wellesley, MA, with his wife and two sons.

Jennifer A. Hylemon has been appointed as a Partner in the law firm of Morrison Mahoney LLP, where she will be a member of the medical professional practice group in the Springfield office. Attorney Hylemon's practice is concentrated in the areas of medical malpractice, profes-

sional liability, general liability, and worker's compensation litigation.

1988

Class Agent Michael Borg
email: mborg@SRBLLP.com

1989

20 Years

20th CLASS REUNION
October 17, 2009

Hon. Lois Eaton was sworn in as Associate Justice of the Hampden County Juvenile Court by Governor Deval Patrick. The presentation of the judicial robe was given to Eaton by **Hon. Rebekah Crampton-Kamaukala '78**.

1990

Class Agent Kathleen Porter
email: kporter@rc.com

Hon. Edward A. Robbins has been selected to serve another six-year term as Judge of the Chesterfield County (VA) Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court. His duties include serving as the Court's Chief Judge. He resides in Chesterfield with his wife, Nancy, and their three children; Teddy, Michael, and Ashley.

1991

Class Agent
Martha Allard email: marthaallard@bellsouth.net

Christine Chinni, Partner in the law firm of Chinni and Meuser LLC, has been hired as the law firm to represent the Plainville, CT, school district.

Jeffrey R. Houle has been named Comanaging Shareholder of Greenberg Traurig's Northern Virginia office. Jeff is the founder of the firm's Northern Virginia office and was instrumental in the founding of its Boston and Palo Alto, CA, offices.

1992

Class Agent
Chris Browne email: cameronbrowne@msn.com

Luis Roberto Vera Jr. recently appeared on MSNBC speaking to Dr. Nancy Snyderman regarding a case involving an illegal immigrant who was secretly deported by a Florida hospital. Attorney Vera is the National Legal Advisor for the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC).

Become a Class Agent

Class Agents are needed for the Classes of 1971, 1972, 1974, 1978, 1980, 1982, 1989, and 1995. If you are interested in serving as a Class Agent please contact Carol Thompson at cthompson@law.wnec.edu or visit the School of Law Alumni Class Agent webpage in the "Get Involved" section.

The School of Law is committed to maintaining "quality connections" between our alumni and the School of Law. Our Class Agent program is an essential part of the commitment and is designed to engage classmates to not only support the initiatives here at the School of Law but to also serve as a resource for our alumni. Class agents serve as a vital part of the connection process acting as liaisons between their classmates and the School.

1993

Class Agents

Katie Stone Harrington email: bharrington5207@comcast.net
Holly Lemieux email: hlemieux@lynchlynch.com

Harris Freeman, Assistant Professor Legal Research and Writing at Western New England College School of Law, has been appointed by Governor Deval Patrick to sit on the Commonwealth Employment Relations Board (CERB). The Board, comprised of three members, is the judicial body issuing decisions and order governing public sector labor relations in Massachusetts.

J. Christopher Sheehan has been promoted to Vice President and General Counsel for American Student Assistance. His practice concentrates on regulatory, product development, corporate transaction, human resources, and corporate governance matters.

1994

15 Years

15th CLASS REUNION
October 17, 2009

Class Agent Lisa Bongiovi email: lisa.bongiovi@carrier.utc.com

Victor E. Gatti is employed as a Partner at Jones Day in New York City. Gatti's practice involves the tax and business aspects of domestic and international transactions, including mergers and acquisitions, financings, and cross-border integrations of existing and acquired businesses.

Marwan Zubi attended the swearing-in ceremony in Albany, where has was admitted to the New York Bar. Zubi is Senior Attorney with Nicolai Law Group, P.C. focusing on civil litigation, arbitration, and mediation.

1995

Karin Sloan DeLaney joins the firm of Hancock & Estabrook, LLP, as a member of the firm's trust and estate, tax, and elder law practice groups. She lives in Baldwinsville, NY, with her husband and two sons.

Kevin Greene has been awarded a "40 Under Forty Winner" by the *Hartford Business Journal*. Greene is a Partner with the law firm of Halloran & Sage, LLP.

1996

Class Agents

Marie Angelides email: angelides@angelidesandsouth.com
Frances South email: south@angelidesandsouth.com

1997

Class Agent

Michael Blanchard email: michael.blanchard@bingham.com

Jodie Roure has received an offer for publication from the *Columbian Human Rights Law Review* for her article "Domestic Violence in Brazil: Examining Obstacles and Approaches to Legislative Reform."

1998

Class Agent

Darlene Massery email: darlenemassery@hotmail.com

John J. Leahy has accepted a position as the IRS Criminal Division attaché to 38 eastern European countries including Germany, Hungary, Poland, and Russia.

1999

10 Years

10th CLASS REUNION
October 17, 2009

Class Agent

Rebecca Mitchell email: rmitchell@nage.org

Jeremy K. Hanson opened his own practice in Riverside, CA, in March of 2009, and was recently named by *Inland Empire Magazine* as one of the regions "Best Lawyers for 2008." His fiancée is graduating from the University of La Verne Law School.

David Huberman has been admitted to the partnership at the firm of White and Williams, LLP, located in Philadelphia. Mr. Huberman is a Partner in the subrogation department.

C. Scott Rybny has been named Partner at the national law firm of Nelson Levine de Luca & Horst, LLC, where he is a member of the firm's national coverage practice group focusing on defense of first and third party insurance coverage, bad faith, and fraud.

Phillip Stackhouse joined the Washington, DC, law firm of Schertler & Onorato as a Partner in June. Phil's practice includes representation of military men and women in all aspects of military law and court-martial. Additionally, Phil represents individuals and corporations in all aspects of criminal and civil litigation in both state and federal courts in the pretrial, trial, and posttrial phases. Prior to joining Schertler & Onorato, Phil was the Principal Attorney of The Law Offices of Phillip Stackhouse, PLLC representing men and women of the Armed Forces around the world. Prior to beginning his own law firm he served 22 years in the U.S. Marine Corps retiring in 2006.



Where are they now?

Suzanne Parker '03

Amherst, MA
Executive Director
Girls, Inc. of Holyoke

Suzanne Parker '03 is the Executive Director of Girls, Inc. of Holyoke where she oversees a nonprofit organization that serves up to 1,800 girls a year in the greater Holyoke area. She has over 18 years of experience working for nonprofit organizations throughout Massachusetts' Pioneer Valley.

What is the mission of Girls, Inc. of Holyoke?

"Our mission is to inspire all girls to be strong, smart, and bold by providing them with opportunities to achieve their full potential. We provide a range of services for girls from ages 5 to 18 in the greater Holyoke area. We use curricula that are research based and proven to get results. We have programs for younger girls, after school programs, academic programs, and wonderful summer programs."

What are some of your main responsibilities?

"As the Executive Director, I do anything and everything to keep the organization running. Obviously I work very closely with our Board of Directors to set the strategic direction of the organization. I do a lot of fundraising and grant writing to the state and federal government and local business and foundations to make sure we have the funding to carry out our work. I also make sure that our programs are high quality."

Why did you decide to get a J.D.?

"My undergrad degree was in music education. Working in senior level management in a nonprofit organization, I needed to beef up my qualifications in order to move forward or even make a lateral move. Law school was a great way for me to do that."

How do you apply the skills you learned at the School of Law to your position?

"In a small nonprofit, we are writing grants all the time. The writing skills I learned as a member of the *Western New England Law Review*, are so important. I know I can sit down and put a grant together that's going to help benefit our organization."

Stay in the Loop

Please be sure your Class Agent and the Office of Alumni Relations have your current mailing and email addresses.

Send your Alumni Notes to: Carol Thompson, Office of Law Alumni Relations, Western New England College School of Law, 1215 Wilbraham Road, Springfield, MA 01119-2684 or email cthompson@law.wnec.edu.

ALUMNI Notes FALL 2009



Where are they now?

George Philip '78
Albany, NY
President
University at Albany

George Philip '78 was named the 18th President of the University at Albany, State University of New York on June 16, 2009.

What are your main responsibilities as President of the University?

"First and foremost, I am the chief advocate for the University at Albany – SUNY, doing all I can to advance its interests. We have great strengths in the faculty and staff at UAlbany, and it's my privilege and responsibility to get us all working together to achieve educational excellence and a climate that fosters success for all students. I'm responsible for preparing the UAlbany budget—and at the same time, I am the chief fundraiser for UAlbany. I'm responsible for attracting, developing, and mentoring an excellent senior leadership team. I am a spokesman for UAlbany, constantly working to communicate our value to our key constituencies."

What are some of your goals for your tenure as President?

"Working with UAlbany's faculty and staff, I want to build on our many strengths and take our campus to new heights. I first came to UAlbany as a freshman in 1965, and since then, I have seen UAlbany grow into a world-class research institution. In 2008-2009, UAlbany faculty attracted \$342 million in research funding. This funding reflects UAlbany's historic strengths in atmospheric sciences and public-policy-oriented social sciences, and dramatic recent investments in nanotechnology and the life sciences. UAlbany is about to embark on a strategic planning process. This is a critical process for developing a shared understanding of our priorities and the steps we need to take. Like higher education institutions across the nation, UAlbany faces budget challenges as a result of the recession. I firmly believe, however, that the current challenges will ultimately provide UAlbany an opportunity to recast itself as an even stronger institution. We have tremendous strengths to build upon."

How did Western New England College School of Law prepare you for your present position?

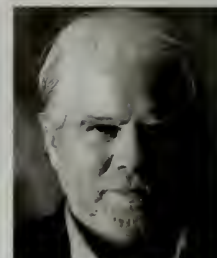
"My education at Western New England Law School has been valuable throughout my career. In my current role, my legal background is helpful on a wide range of issues on a daily basis. Before I became UAlbany's President, I worked for 36 years at the New York State Teachers' Retirement System—the last 12 years as Executive Director. My legal background served me particularly well there when I began negotiating real estate transactions. It was again very helpful when I took on my first volunteer assignment for UAlbany in 1992. I helped to negotiate the plans for the first step in what has become UAlbany's internationally renowned nanotechnology research and development complex."



Huberman '99



Rybny '99



Stackhouse '99

2000

Class Agents

Arose Nielsen email:

arosenielsen@verizon.net

Jim Winston email:

james@jameswinstonlaw.com

Justin H. Dion has been recognized with the Massachusetts Bar Association Community Service Award for the creation of a foreclosure task force in which they unite lawyers to provide volunteer services for families facing foreclosure. Mr. Dion also spoke at a Massachusetts Bar Association program about the foreclosure process and how to mitigate financial losses for homeowners. Mr. Dion is employed by the firm of Bacon Wilson, P.C. located in Springfield, and is also an Adjunct Professor at the Western New England College School of Law.

Jeremy C. Johnson and **Amy C. Smith '01** are proud to announce the birth of their second daughter, Brynn Annika Johnson, born January 6, 2009.

2001

Class Agents

Jenny Desch email:

jenny.desch@yorkcountygov.com

Jennifer Zalnasky email:

jksesq@comcast.net

Amy C. Smith and **Jeremy C. Johnson '00** are proud to announce the birth of their second daughter, Brynn Annika Johnson, born January 6, 2009.

2002

Class Agent Lori Leavitt email:

legallylori@aol.com

Shana-Tara Regon has joined the national office of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers as Director of White Collar Crime Policy located in Washington, DC.

2003

Class Agent Karen Romano

email: karen161@msn.com

2004

5 Years

FIFTH CLASS REUNION

October 17, 2009

Class Agent Linda Fakhoury email:

fakhourylaw@aol.com

Dihanne Perez Guilbert welcomed a new baby boy, Nicolas Alexander Guilbert, to their family. Baby Nico was born December 19, 2008.

Karin R. Page has joined with Enrique Benitez II as a Partner in the law firm of Benitez Page located on Wall Street in downtown New York City.

2005

Class Agent Kelley Cooper Miller email:

kellycooper@yahoo.com

Renee Miller-Mizia has taken a position as Vice President at CRA International in Boston, developing an offering with regard to chemical industry litigation support services.

2006

Class Agent Julia Lentini email:

juliaklentini@gmail.com



Dion '00



Johnson '00/Smith '01

We are always interested in hearing from you. If you have news of career advancement or change, professional accomplishments or activities, marriages, births, changes in address, or any other news, please share it with us.

Thomas D. Moore and Colleen D'Arcy McGuire were married on May 9, 2009, in Port Washington, NY. Thomas is an Attorney for the City of Springfield and they will reside in Springfield.

2007

Class Agents Kelly Koch email: kellykoch32@gmail.com
Stephanie Schlatter email: sschlatter@hotmail.com

Alexander Kalife and Kristina da Fonseca have opened a practice together located in New Bedford, MA.

Leslie A. Silva has established the law firm, The Silva Law Group, LLC, located in Stamford, CT. She is a member of the Connecticut Bar Association, the Fairfield County Bar Association, the New Haven County Bar Association, and is a member of its New Haven Young Lawyers Committee. She is also a member of the American Bar Association as a part of its Young Lawyers Division and serves as a member of its Family Law Committee.

2009

Class Agent John Bandeian email: jbandeian@gmail.com

2008

Class Agents Jacqueline Alessi email: Jacqueline.alessi@gmail.com
Kendra Berardi email: Kendra.berardi@gmail.com
Michelle Hummer email: mhummer@ofalaw.com

In Memoriam

The magazine has received notice of the deaths of the following members of the School of Law family.

Edward A. Dougal '59 passed away March 9, 2009. He leaves his wife, Stephanie Dougal of Indian Orchard, MA; his children Edward F. Dougal of Nacogdoches, TX; Christopher J. Dougal of Granby, MA; Stephen A. Dougal of Wilbraham, MA; Theresa A. Dougal of Bethlehem, PA; Elizabeth M. Dougal, Thomas C. Dougal, Walter A. Dougal, Mary A. Dougal, Ann E. Dougal, all of Indian Orchard, MA.

Raymond F. Kennedy '58 passed away April 8, 2009. He is survived by his sister, Kathy Barry of Holyoke, MA, his daughters, Carol DeSimone of Scituate, MA; and Sharon Kennedy of Osterville, MA, and his son Brian Kennedy of the Villages, FL.

James C. Logomasini '62 passed away March 2, 2009. He is survived by his children and brother, Robert.



Heard Around the Commons

A Bulletin Board of Excerpts from Recent Speeches at the School of Law

"Even if you were to agree it is important to prevent wholesale copying, we can still be very concerned about the use of copyright to limit people's ability to transform work into works of their own."

Molly Beutz Land, Associate Professor of Law, New York Law School, pictured above during her presentation entitled "Human Rights, Copyright, and Culture" as part of the Clason Speaker Series on April 7, 2009

"What are the steps that you need to follow when it comes to increasing your organization's profitability? It's a very simple process. The first one is awareness. People need to be aware of your calling. The second one is trial; people need to try you out. And the third one is repeat."

Andrew Morrison, President, Small Business Camp and Host, The 16 Week Challenge, during his presentation as keynote speaker during the "How To" Entrepreneurship Institute on March 27, 2009

LAW ALUMNI

Benefits & Services

Alumni Finder and Alumni Website

Use our website to receive news from the School, access library resources, or find other Western New England College School of Law alumni through our "Alumni Finder" feature. Visit www.law.wnec.edu/alumni.

Continuing Legal Education Programs

Our highly successful CLE programs have covered topics ranging from probating an estate to trying OUI cases. All alumni get a discounted rate of \$80. For details, visit www.law.wnec.edu.

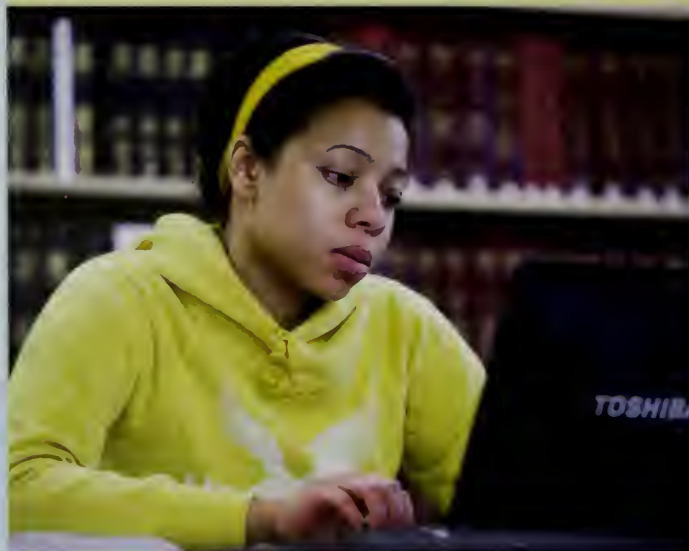
Career Services

Alumni seeking career advice or offering employment can take advantage of the services of the Office of Career Services. The office assists with résumé writing, employment correspondence, interviewing preparation, career decision making, and job search strategy. Through the online Intercollegiate Job Bank, alumni have access to job listings from law schools across the country. The office can also coordinate reciprocity with over 50 law schools. Contact them at jobpost@law.wnec.edu or 413-782-1416.

Networking with Other Alumni

Networking opportunities for alumni include the Alumni receptions hosted by the School of Law at various locations around the country, reunions, and the Dinner for Students and Alumni of Color.

The Law Alumni Association is branching out and would like your support revitalizing our alumni chapters. We are currently forming chapters in Washington, DC; Boston; and Hartford. To participate, please contact the Office of Law Alumni Relations at 413-782-1311.



School of Law Library

Free access to western Massachusetts' only academic law library is an outstanding alumni resource. For hours or information, call 413-782-1457 or visit the School of Law website at www.law.wnec.edu/library.

D'Amour Library

The D'Amour Library serves as a valuable resource to alumni undertaking professional research or expanding their personal reading enjoyment. Alumni I.D. card required. Call 413-782-1535 or visit <http://libraries.wnec.edu>.

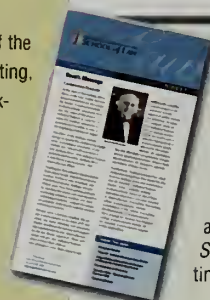
As an alumnus/a of Western New England College School of Law, the following benefits and services are available to you:

The Alumni Healthful Living Center (AHLIC)

Law alumni are welcome to use the world-class facilities of the AHLIC free of charge. Popular amenities include the fitness center, pool, and track. For details, call 413-782-1518.

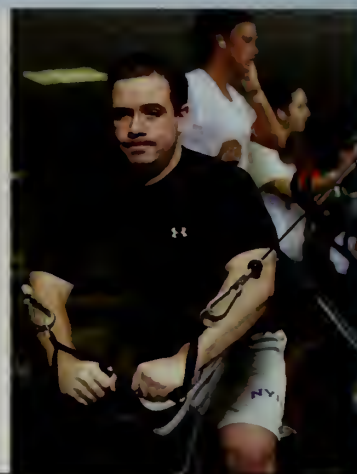
Alumni Association ID Card

The Alumni Association ID allows alumni to use the resources on campus including the Law Library and the Alumni Healthful Living Center. For details, call 413-782-1311 or email cthompson@law.wnec.edu.



Alumni Publications

Alumni of the School of Law receive the full color *Perspectives* magazine twice a year and the newsletter *Law School Digest* three times a year.



J.D. Course Auditing J.D. courses in the School of Law may be audited on a space available basis with the permission of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs by an alumnus/a who has completed the J.D. degree at Western New England College School of Law. Call 413-782-1402 or visit www.law.wnec.edu/alumni.

Transcript Requests Law transcripts are issued by the Student Records Office at the School of Law. For more information, call the Student Records Office at 413-782-1401 or fax your request to 413-796-2067.

Replacing a Diploma If your diploma is lost or damaged, you can replace it by calling Student Administrative Services at 800-325-1122 ext. 2080. (A \$30 service fee is required.)



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The College Bookstore There's no better way to proudly display your law school connection than with a shirt or memento from the College Bookstore. For more information, call 413-782-1284 or visit www.wnec.bkstr.com.

Insurance Discounts As a graduate of Western New England College, you may qualify for a special group discount on your auto, home, and renter's insurance. For details, call 413-782-1311 or visit www.law.wnec.edu/alumni.

Alumni Affinity Credit Card

The College offers enrollment in an affinity credit card. For every purchase you make with the card a percentage will be donated to the College. For details call the Office of Law Alumni Relations at 413-782-1311.

Learn more about alumni benefits and services at:
www.law.wnec.edu/alumni.

The Office of Law Alumni Relations serves as a resource to our members, committees, and regional chapters. Feel free to contact Carol Thompson at 413-782-1311 with questions about benefits, events, or volunteer opportunities.

PERSPECTIVES

Perspectives is a publication of Western New England College School of Law.

ARTHUR R. AUDIO
Dean and Professor of Law

BILL CHILDS
*Associate Dean for External Affairs
and Professor of Law*

BARBARA CAMPANELLA
*Vice President for Marketing
and External Affairs*

JOANNE O'NEIL
Law Development Manager

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Elizabeth Barszcz



Attorney Carol
Cioe Klyman '96
Shatz, Schwartz
and Fentin, P.C.

Carol Cioe Klyman '96

"Funding academics is a way to have my dollars do the most direct good and fill an immediate need."

"Law school was a wonderful experience—one of the few times in my life when I did not feel guilty about spending time on myself. Studying the law has enriched my personal and family life, has given new purpose to my professional life, and is a constant source of intellectual stimulation. I feel compelled to give what I can to one of the few institutions that actually delivered on its promise."

"The current reality is that an institution must have a beautiful facility with the latest technological advances to compete for upper-echelon students and recognition as a top tier law school, but to me, academics are the heart and soul of a school. Providing a quality education must be our first priority."

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YOUR FUTURE BEGAN.**

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www.law.wnec.edu/alumni

Call JoAnne R. O'Neil at 413-782-1523

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CALENDAR of EVENTS

NOVEMBER 2009

- 3 Color of Law Roundtable – Dave Vatti,
Blake Law Center, 12:00 noon
- 5 Law and Business Center
Speaker Series – David Bullock,
Law School Commons, 12:00 noon
- 13 10th Annual Dinner for Students
and Alumni of Color at the Log Cabin
Banquet and Meeting House
Holyoke, MA

DECEMBER 2009

- 4 Law and Business Center
EXTREME Business Makover –
Robert Kelley, E Games Connect,
NUVO Bank Community Room,
1414 Main Street, Springfield
12:00 noon

JANUARY 2010

- 12 Law and Business Center
Speaker Series – Robert Lawless,
Law School Commons, 12:00 noon
- 27 Color of Law Roundtable
Cynthia Tucker, Blake Law Center,
12:00 noon

visit www.law.wnec.edu

For more information, visit www.law.wnec.edu/alumni
or call Carol Thompson at 413-782-1311.